# Mount Morris

## Past and Present

By
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Mt. Morris, N. Y.

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THE FIRST HOUSE IN MOUNT MORRIS.

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# MOUNT MORRIS: PAST AND PRESENT

## AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

OF THE

TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT MORRIS, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, IN THEIR VARIOUS STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

TOGETHER WITH

## A LOCAL BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY.

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY
KABLE BROTHERS.

MOUNT MORRIS, ILL.:
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# PREFACE.

It is found by observation and experience that one of the greatest pleasures that a man may enjoy is to return, after an absence of many years, to the place of his nativity, to view the scenes dear to him in days of youth and grasp the hands of old schoolmates, the memory of whose faces has been almost obliterated by the passage of time. No matter how meagre was his old home, nor how simple his surroundings, still there remains that undying interest in the scenes of his youth which causes him often to sigh for a few hours to roam over these old familiar spots. The poet has truthfully said:

> Hard indeed must a man be made
> By the toil and traffic of gain and trade
> To love not the spot where a boy he played.

It was therefore thought that if a book could be written and supplied with the necessary illustrations to bring back some of the pleasant memories of the boyhood days of the many old citizens of Mount Morris who have removed to other fields of labor, as well as recall to those remaining, facts and history which may have escaped their memory; to bring back to students of old Rock River Seminary and of Mount Morris College, memories of pleasant hours in class-room and on the campus; and further to perpetuate in tangible form for the present rising generation, the state of affairs and, by many views, the appearance of the town and her most influential citizens, when they too may go forth to other fields of labor, or their memories of their childhood days fade in the dimness of advancing age,—could a book be written to accomplish all this, and further serve to preserve the main facts for their intrinsic historical value, it was thought that a work of the kind would be both appreciated and given the proper support. With this impression of mind the matter in the following pages was prepared and is presented with the hope that it may not prove entirely unsuccessful and that due considera-

tion may be taken by its readers of this, the first attempt by the publishers, of a work of this kind.

The material herein embodied was gathered from innumerable sources, and it is reasonable to suppose that some unavoidable mistakes have been made in names, dates, etc. It is not expected to be so perfect that it may be above and beyond criticism, but it is the publishers' hope that it will be found measurably correct and generally accurate and reliable. Much of the information was obtained by personal interviews with those possessing the desired information, and also much was gathered from old and time-worn records, scrap-books and newspapers, which were kindly entrusted to us by their owners. Among those to whom we are grateful for aid in this work might be mentioned: Samuel Knodle, Martin T. Rohrer, Hon. R. R. Hitt, Major Chas. Newcomer, Capt. Peter Householder, Jonathan Hiestand, Reuben S. Marshall, Henry Sharer, Michael Bovey, Prof. J. G. Royer, Revs. L. L. Lipe, F. W. Nazarene, and D. F. Seyster, N. A. Ankney, Chas. H. Sharer, H. G. Newcomer, T. C. Williams, and many others. Our thanks are also due the many people of Mount Morris who have assisted in making the illustrative feature of the book a success.

The photographs reproduced herein have also been gathered from various sources. The old views of Mount Morris are from old photographs which have long been the valued property of our former venerable townsman, Mr. Samuel Knodle. The majority of the photographs were taken, however, by Roy Householder, professional photographer, and Roy Jackson, amateur photographer, and some of the older ones by J. M. Hosking, deceased, and J. M. Rinedollar. Prof. W. L. Eikenberry secured the views which illustrate the chapter on "Local Calamities."

In conclusion we wish to again thank all concerned, not only for their support and assistance in the work, but for the confidence which has been imposed in the ability of the publishers to produce a work worthy of their assistance and support.

HARVEY J. KABLE.
HARRY G. KABLE.

*December, 1900.*

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# MOUNT MORRIS: PAST AND PRESENT.

## CHAPTER I.

### EARLY HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT.

More than three-score years have passed since the hardy immigrants from the eastern states pushed their way across mountains and rivers to what was then the wild frontier of civilization,—the state of Illinois. A company of these pioneers, from Maryland, made the first permanent settlement in the wilderness, which now, under a far different aspect, bears the name of Mount Morris township. Here, where the primeval forest had never been traversed, save by the foot of the red man or by the flight of wild game, they hewed the rough timber for their dwellings, and established themselves in a colony for the purpose of promoting their interests and general welfare. How well they succeeded in laying the foundation of a prosperous community, the beautiful and charming town of Mount Morris today is a testimony.

Were one to ascend the steel structure upon which rests the water supply of our village, and from this point of vantage contemplate the expanse of country spreading out like a panorama for many miles around him, noting the several hundred cozy dwellings of our contented and peace-loving citizens, the substantial mercantile structures, the several institutions of learning, the different church buildings, and, beyond the village precincts, the broad well-tilled acres with their neat farmhouses, the waving grain reflecting the bright rays of the great orb of day, the monotony of which is broken by frequent strips of timber land, the hazy smoke of our sister towns going heavenward far off near the horizon, over all this enchanting scene a spirit of restfulness and contentment resting like a benison from on high,—were one to note all this at the present day, and then, from the same point, view the same area of land as it appeared when the hardy pioneers first trod the virgin soil, what a complete metamorphosis would greet the eye! All the charming attributes of the foregoing brightly-depicted scene would vanish, and in their places would appear an unbroken expanse of prairie grass, dotted here and there with patches of brilliant wild flowers, but not a shrub or a tree to break the monotony of the view. At a distance, where now are pleasant farmhouses, broad areas of well-fenced fields of grain, and miles of graded road, there would appear nothing but alternating expanses of unbroken prairie and trackless forests, neither bearing evidence of ever having been traversed by the foot of man, save, perchance, the slight mark of a trail leading between growths of timber, along which bands of Indians galloped upon

their wiry ponies, and where the deer ruminated, their dainty hoofs dyed blood-red by the juice of wild strawberries, ruthlessly trampled under foot.

A description of the region around Mount Morris as it appeared in the days of old is most fascinating to the younger generation when they have the privilege of hearing it direct from the lips of the old pioneers. The present site of Mount Morris, as stated before, was an open prairie, with not a tree or a shrub to be found. What is now the college campus was then the crest of a hill of considerable size, the country sloping from it in all directions. The early settlers say that before the view was obstructed by buildings and trees, the altitude of the hill was very perceptible. The prairie grass was very rank. In fact, in some places it grew so luxuriantly that it was almost impassable. Most of the ravines and hollows were in a wet, boggy state; and the streams and ponds retained the water from rains much longer than now, because of the absence of tiling in the lowlands. There abounded hundreds of springs, which have long since ceased to flow, owing to the rapid drainage now effected by the work of tiling and the development of the soil.

The patch of prairie in the midst, or rather on the crest, of which Mount Morris was founded, contained probably less than ten square miles. The margin of timber approached on the north to about the present location of George Windle's residence; on the east, to John T. Kanode's farm: on the south, to the Barnhizer and Shaw farms; on the southwest, to N. A. Watts'; on the west, to William Lohafer's: and on the northwest, to the present timber known as Hitt's woods. The margin, of course, was irregular, affording many "bays" of the prairie along the skirts of the timber. In these little coves, hidden just within the edge of the woods, the first settlers built their rude log-cabins, invariably near some of the many fine springs, so that pure fresh water could be readily obtained. None of the first settlers ventured out upon the prairie to build, probably because of the extra labor involved in getting logs for building, and in obtaining fuel and fence-rails.

The log-cabins built at that time were of the most primitive character. They were generally one-story structures, made of round logs, which were sometimes not even "scutched down." The roof was made of clapboards, which consisted of thin slabs, called "shakes," about three or four feet long, split from logs. In the absence of nails, the tiers of these rude shingles were held down by lodge-poles. If there was more than one room, it was, in all probability, a shed addition built on one side. If there was an upstairs to the house, it was reached by a rough ladder, made from a conveniently-sized sapling, through which holes were bored at desired intervals, and then the pole was split in half. For rounds, the smaller undergrowth of hickory, oak or ash was next brought into use, cut to the proper length and the ends dressed down, so as to fit the holes in the side-pieces of the ladder. This ladder would be erected in one corner of the room, or put up side of the chimney on the exterior of the house. In the latter case, a hole was cut through the outer wall of logs, which would

furnish admission to the attic. The floor of the dwelling was often of nothing but the bare ground, and the furniture was of the most meager sort. Three-legged stools were used for chairs; and tables were often made from rough slabs split from logs, dressed down with a broad-axe to a proper thickness, then fastened together by a cross-piece underneath, which was held in place by wooden pins. In each corner a hole was bored into which a leg was fitted. Bedsteads were made as follows: A hole was bored at the proper height in one of the logs of the side of the building, about four feet from the corner. About six feet from the wall, a post was driven into the ground. One end of the side-rail of the bed would be fitted in the auger-hole, and the other end fastened to the post. The foot-rail was then provided for in the same way. The slats were next fastened from the side-rail to the side of the house, and the bed was done. In the case of hotels these bedsteads were often made so that by placing one above the other, a single bed-post would support as many as six beds. If the occupants of the house consisted of both sexes, or if, as was often the case, several families occupied the same room, the beds would be separated by curtains of deer-skins or of some other material, or else the light was put out before retiring. This was done by covering up or throwing water upon the embers in the fire-place. If, by accident, the fire was extinguished, it was rekindled by striking flints and catching sparks on tinder, there being no matches in those days.

As mentioned before, the first settlers built their houses along the margin of the timber. Later arrivals, however, began to realize the value of the prairie land, and started to take up claims there. Probably the prairie sod in this vicinity was first turned during the year 1836, but many years passed before the entire prairie was brought into the present state of cultivation.

Unlike many sections of Illinois, Mount Morris was entirely free from tragedies with the Indians; in fact, the warlike tribes had been driven westward before this part of the country became settled. This county was originally a part of the hunting-grounds of the Winnebagoes and Pottawattomies, and their trails from one grove to another were easily discernible, while hundreds of their arrow-heads and other weapons have been and are still being found in all parts of the township. In 1832 occurred the terrible Black Hawk War, and as a result all of the red men, except a few dozen peaceful families, were driven westward. At that early day no settlers had yet stopped here and consequently the trouble was all over when civilization began to dawn in this vicinity. The only sight which the early settlers ever got of these swarthy aborigines was an occasional band crossing the plains in quest of game or begging. These were the most quiet and peaceful of the Indian tribes of the country, but they, too, finally became dissatisfied with the restrictions of their treaty with the whites, and followed their more warlike brethren to the wilderness west of the Mississippi, leaving their former lands free to the onward march of civilization.

Settlements were made at a number of points in the county before

any claims were taken up in Mount Morris township. *Kett's History of Ogle County* says: "Isaac Chambers passed through the county limits early in the summer of 1827, *en route* for Galena, and was so favorably impressed with the beauty of the country and the richness of the soil, that he determined to make it his future home, which determination he carried out in 1829. John Ankney came up from the southern part of the state, in the spring of 1829, and located a claim at Buffalo Grove (west of Polo), near where the old Galena road crossed Buffalo creek. After making his claim, he returned for his family; and, while he was absent on that mission, Isaac Chambers returned from Galena with his family, and stopped at White Oak Grove, a small growth or patch of timber about a half-mile west of the present village of Forreston. But, not altogether suited, he remained there only a short time. He reasoned that the timbered parts of the country would become more valuable than the prairie land, because of the superabundance of the latter and the comparative scarcity of the former. After prospecting around for a while and examining different localities, he finally settled at Buffalo Grove, about ten miles south of his first stopping place at White Oak Grove. He removed his family there and commenced to make arrangements to build a home. . . . As it happened, Mr. Chambers had taken the claim previously selected by Mr. Ankney; and, while he was perfecting his plans and arrangements for opening a road and erecting his house, Mr. Ankney came back with his family, and was somewhat surprised to find that his claim had been 'jumped,' or taken, by Mr. Chambers, while the latter was no less surprised at the appearance of the former." Mr. Ankney was compelled to make a new claim farther down the creek. The *History* continues: "After their houses were built, Chambers and Ankney proceeded to establish the dividing line between their claims. Other boundary lines were unnecessary, for there were no other claimants in all the country; and, if they so willed it, one of them could claim Rock river for his eastern line, and the other one, the Mississippi for his western line. They were, for the time, 'monarchs of all they surveyed.' One clear star-light night, when the moon did not shine, and when there were no clouds floating across the sky, they went together to the south side of the grove; and, from a red-oak stump, they started toward the North Star, hacking the trees which stood in their way, the marked trees being the line between them."

From the most reliable information it appears that John Phelps was the original pioneer in this township, having visited the county and taken up a claim about two and one-half miles east of Mount Morris as early as 1835. It would be interesting to know who was the first white man to set foot within the present corporate limits of the village or even the township, but information upon this subject cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy. Possibly Chambers or Ankney may have made a trip over from Buffalo Grove, or some trapper or hunter may have wandered over this part of the prairie. Possibly Phelps may have been the first, as late as 1834, when he came into the county; but certain it is that Phelps was the first permanent settler in the township. In the summer of 1836

Samuel M. Hitt and Nathaniel Swingley came to the township and found him living in a cabin two and one-half miles east of the present site of Mount Morris: Larkin Baker had a cabin and a claim about four miles southeast, subsequently owned by Daniel Price; David Worden lived one and one-half miles southwest; and probably one or two others had settled along the edge of the timber. Hitt and Swingley, however, went out upon the prairie, then left free from the encroachment of civilization, and made several claims, including the present site of Mount Morris. They remained here during the summer, but at autumn returned to Maryland and hired a number of men to settle with them in the new country, promising to pay them one dollar per day for service in building houses, splitting rails and building fence, breaking the prairie and harvesting the crops. Among those thus engaged were Michael Bovey, Adam, Daniel and John Stover, Balka Niehoff, Samuel Grove, Eli Householder, William McDannel, Abram and Jonathan Myers, and Fred Finkbohnar. This party started for their new homes in the west in the spring of 1837. Householder, McDannel, and Daniel Stover were accompanied by their wives. Mrs. Elizabeth Ankney, with her little son Albertus and her daughter Mrs. William Watts, was also a member of the party. They traveled by wagons to Wheeling, West Virginia, by boat on the Ohio, Mississippi, and Illinois rivers to Peru, and the remaining distance by wagon. Early in the spring they arrived at a vacant cabin in Fridley's grove, east of the present site of Mount Morris. This cabin had been built and occupied by Judge Ford, afterward governor of the state. Here the first Maryland colony, as these settlers were afterward termed, remained for two weeks, while the men-folks proceeded to erect their cabins. The first one built by them, which was also the first in the township, was a double log-cabin, on the claim of Mrs. Ankney, about three-quarters of a mile southwest of the present village of Mount Morris. Half of this house was moved, at a later day, down into the grove near a spring, and was finally torn down. The other half stood in the field a few rods east of the present residence of N. A. Watts, and was used as an implement house until a a year or so ago, when it, too, shared the fate of its partner and was torn down for fuel. Unfortunately, no photograph was ever taken of this historic old building, but probably the majority of our citizens can yet remember its appearance as it stood isolated, a rude monument to the toils and hardships of our pioneer fathers. In the two small rooms of this cabin lived four families,—those of Mrs. Ankney and Eli Householder in one part, and Messrs. Stover and McDannel in the other.

While this cabin was being completed, the entire party remained in the Ford cabin. A bake-oven, constructed by Mrs. Ankney, was used in preparing their food, and at night they slept on "wagoner beds," which consisted of plain mattresses, rolled up during the day and spread out on the garret floor at night. Several other cabins were soon completed, however, and the members of the colony became more comfortably located. Mr. Swingley kept the men whom he had brought along busily engaged in cutting down trees in the timber, splitting rails and building fences, and

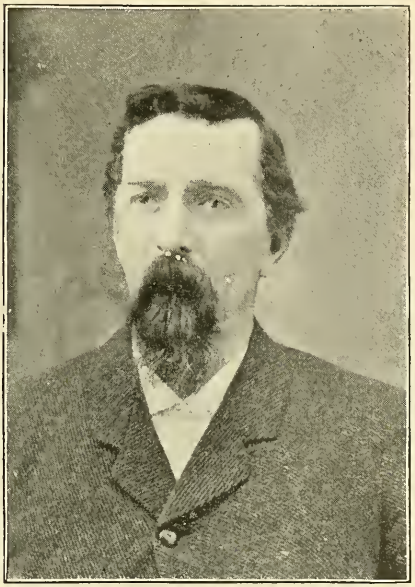
cultivating several small fields of grain, for which prairie sod had been broken in the spring. Mr. Bovey worked with these men during the entire summer and following winter, and tells many interesting tales of their experiences. With three companions he went up near Forreston, one week in harvest, and worked six days cradling a field of oats. During the first night their horses trampled their provisions and left them with nothing to eat. Luckily a man, who was bound eastward toward Swingley's cabin, came along, and through him they got word to their employer. After a day with nothing to eat but several small potatoes, they were relieved with a new supply of provisions. Mr. Bovey also relates an incident of that winter, when with several of the men of the colony he got lost on the prairie during a bitter cold night; and the party drove over the snow-covered ground for many hours in a fruitless search for their cabin. Daylight finally righted them and they then reached home in safety.

MICHAEL BOVEY.

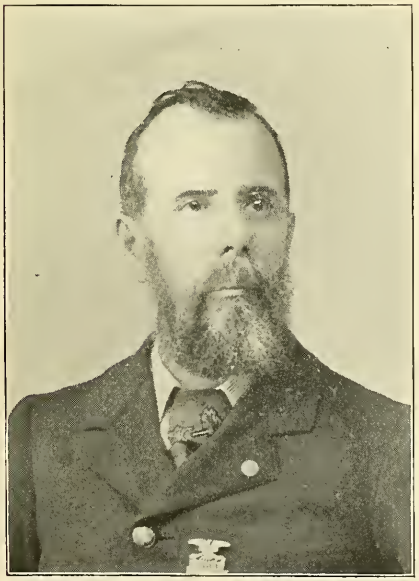
Of these settlers most of them remained in the county. Mr. Bovey took up a claim northwest of town and lived there until old age compelled him to retire, when he took up his abode with his daughter, Mrs. Josiah Avey. He is one of perhaps less than a dozen of the very early settlers of the township who survive. Eli Householder lived here two years and then moved six miles south, where he died in 1896. Mr. Stover also died in this vicinity. Mr. McDannel, after living many years on his farm in Pine Creek, moved to Iowa, where he died. Fred. Finkbohnar moved north to Adeline, where his relatives still live. 'Squire Samuel M. Hitt built a log-cabin on one of his claims, about three miles west of town, later known as the Zumdahl property. There with his family, including Margaret, Andrew, Robert, George, John W., and Joseph, he lived until his death in 1859. In 1858 he began the erection of the fine stone residence, now owned and occupied by Christian Zumdahl, and, although it was not quite completed, he was living in it at the time of his death. The new house stands very near the foundation of the old log-cabin. Captain Nathaniel Swingley took up the claim of the farm, subsequently owned by Jacob

Keedy and later by his son, Edward Keedy, and still later by William Koontz. Mr. Swingley lived there only until 1850, when he became affected by the gold-fever craze and started for the gold-fields in California. After three years in California, he returned to Ogle county, and located at Creston, Dement township, where he died.

In this first emigration were a number of children who accompanied their parents on the long overland journey, shared with them the inconveniences of settling in an undeveloped country, and grew up to manhood and womanhood amid the rough surroundings of their homes in the wilderness. These should therefore be classed along with the earliest settlers



ALBERTUS ANKNEY.

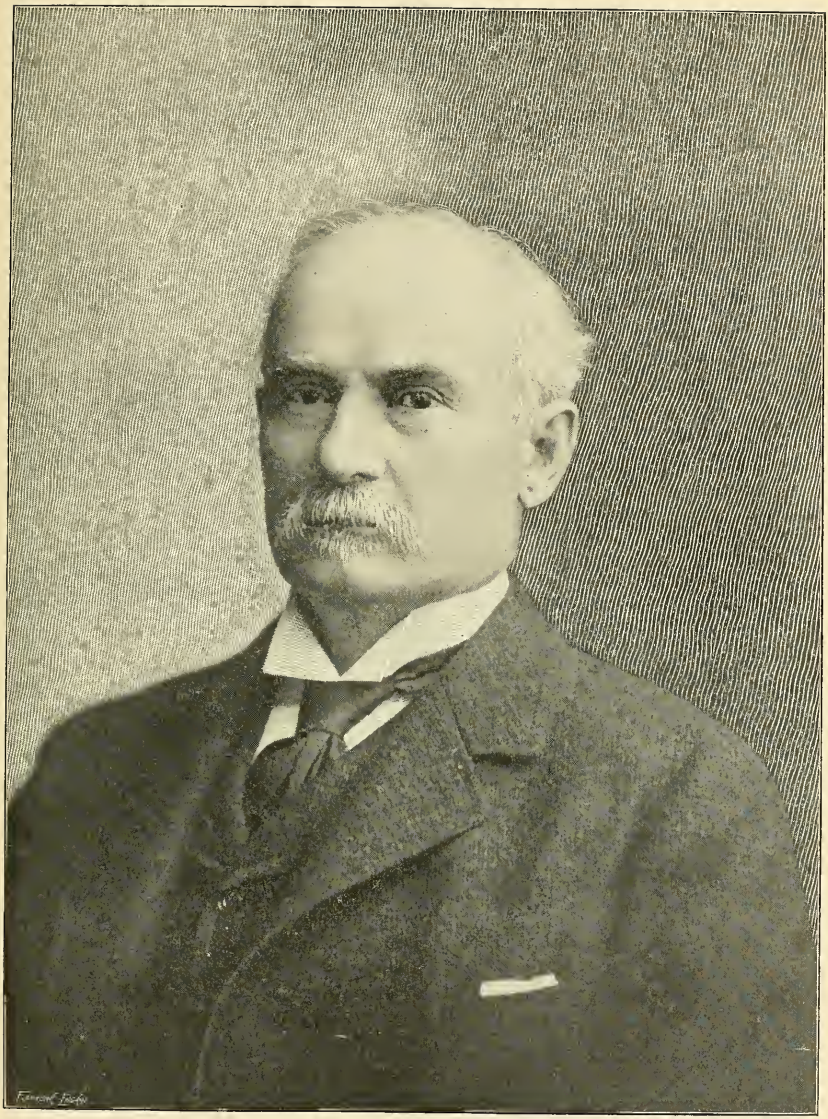


CAPT. PETER HOUSEHOLDER.

of the township. Among those who came here in early childhood were Anna and Albertus Ankney, children of Mrs. Elizabeth Ankney (who afterward married James McCoy, Sr.), and Peter Householder. Of these, Anna Ankney married William Watts, Sr., and lived on the old Watts homestead until the time of her death in 1898. Her brother Albertus and Peter Householder are now living, and are respected residents of our village. These last two were aged respectively four and two years when brought from the east, and they have literally grown up with the country. Both are yet in their sixties, and bid fair to witness many more years of the steady advancement and the healthful growth of Illinois.

Solon Crowell, father of the present State's Attorney of Ogle county, S. W. Crowell, was a very early settler in the township, having occupied a claim a mile north of town, and this claim is now included in the farms of S. F. Stonebraker and I. W. Marshall. During the year 1837, in which the body of settlers already described as the first Maryland colony came to the township, there also came the Rev. T. S. Hitt, Jacob Rice, Sr., and John Wagner, whose families have been among the most substantial and prominent citizens of this community. Rev. Hitt and wife left Ohio in a carriage in the fall of 1837, to examine the new country of which his brother Samuel had written such favorable accounts. He was a Methodist minister, and expected to continue his work in the new country. On arrival here, in September, he occupied a house which Martin Reynolds, a brother-in-law, was then completing on the site of William Lohafer's present residence, west of town. Later he invested in a tract of land two and one-half miles south of town. This tract embraced one thousand acres, one hundred of which was broken. The price paid Mr. Painter for the same was twenty-five hundred dollars. Rev. Hitt, however, soon moved to a claim which his brother Samuel had reserved for him. This claim consisted of what is now the Railroad Addition to the village and the farm immediately northeast, now owned by R. R. Hitt and cutlivated by Gera Watts. Here Rev. Hitt lived until his death, September 23, 1872. He had eight children, as follows: Hon. R. R. Hitt, Mrs. Margaret Newcomer and Mrs. Charles Newcomer, of this place; John, who has been Deputy Collector of Customs in Chicago over thirty years; Emery, Morris and Henry P. Hitt, and Mrs. Elizabeth Wagner, all living in the vicinity of Tyndall, South Dakota. Of this family the most widely known is the first mentioned,—Congressman Robert R. Hitt. Mr. Hitt was but three years of age when his father emigrated from the east in 1837, and has a full knowledge of the early pioneer days of Ogle county. For sixty-three years he has been a resident of Mount Morris, during which time he has steadily mounted the arduous ladder leading to the temple of fame until his name and the prestige of his statesmanship have become known not only in this country but also in foreign lands. Mount Morris is proud of the fact that he grew to manhood in this community, and that he continues to make the village his place of residence. As one of the early settlers of the township his portrait is inserted in this chapter, along with the other pioneers who survive. However, a more complete history of his eventful life will be found in the biographical directory in the rear of this book.

Jacob Rice, Sr., and family left Washington county, Maryland, in September, 1836, intending to locate in Illinois. They wintered in Ohio with Mr. Rice's brother-in-law, John Wagner, Sr., and in the spring both men came on horseback to Ogle county, to take up claims, which they did within three miles of Mount Morris. Their families, each consisting of twelve children, followed them in July. Mr. Rice's claim was the old Rice farm north of town, now owned by his grandson, J. L. Rice, and occupied by William Funk. Here the large family was raised and scattered to different parts of the country. Those of the family best known in Ogle

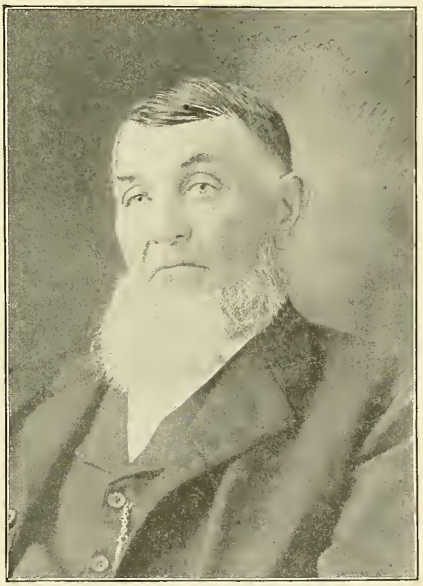


HON. ROBERT R. HITT.

county were Hon. Isaac Rice, father of banker J. L. Rice; John Rice, father of banker John H. Rice; and Jacob Rice, Jr., father of Fred. and William Rice, living north of Mount Morris, all three of whom are now dead. Mrs. Daniel Etnyre, of Oregon, and Mrs. Susan Thomas, of Leaf River, are two of the daughters yet living.

John Wagner's claim comprised the farm now owned by George Carr, northeast of town. Here his rather remarkable and time-honored family was raised, every one of his six sons and six daughters living to a ripe old age and scattering to all points of the compass. The circle was not broken until the death of Joseph, in 1891, at which time the eldest was aged 75 years and the youngest 49 years. Eight are yet living; viz., Mrs. J. A. Knodle, of Mount Morris; Mrs. Barbara McNeill, Mrs. Catherine Griffin, Capt. David C., Reuben and Nehemiah, of Chicago; Mrs. Henry Wertz, of Falls City, Nebr., and Mrs. Sarah Good, of Sedgwick, Kans. Capt. Benj. Wagner died in 1898; John, in 1897; and Mrs. John Timmerman, in 1898. This family, so well preserved for so many years, held many enjoyable reunions, a number of them in Mount Morris. The last, the twelfth since the Civil War, was held in June, 1896, at the residence of one of the sisters, Mrs. J. A. Knodle, in Mount Morris, at which the eleven living members of the family were present. At that time it was estimated that thirty-eight of their children, seventy-two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren were living. A picture was taken at this reunion of Aunt Kittie Rice, Grandmother Mumma, Uncle George Fouke and Uncle John Timmerman, all of them being over ninety years of age. Another, taken of the entire assemblage, is shown on page 21. Many persons appear in it who have since died.

Another arrival from the east in 1837 was Caleb Marshall who was accompanied by his family. His son, Reuben S., now living on the old homestead, three miles north of town, was but ten years of age at that time, and he has a vivid remembrance of the early pioneer days. Mrs. John Gale, of Oregon; Mrs. Elmira Spenser, of Nora Spring, Iowa; and Isaac S. Marshall, of Decatur county, Iowa, are the other living children.

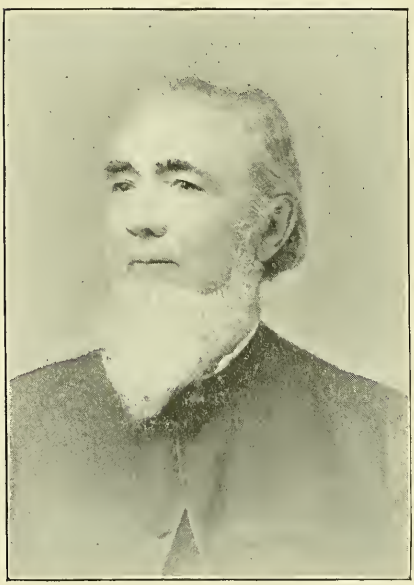


REUBEN S. MARSHALL.

In September, 1837, for one thousand dollars, John Fridley purchased the old Ford cabin

and claim, where he continued to live until the time of his death. The land then became the property of his sons, Andrew, David, John, Jacob and Benjamin. Of these, Andrew, John and Benjamin are yet living in the township, and David and Jacob have died.

These settlers who arrived in 1837 were well pleased with the new country, and consequently in the following spring, 1838, at the solicitation of 'Squire Samuel Hitt and Capt. Nathaniel Swingley, who had induced many of the settlers of the year previous to emigrate, a large number of families, known as the Maryland colony proper, left their eastern homes and came to Mount Morris township. Many of them took up claims here, while others went to Carroll county and other places. Among these families were the Ilers, the Etnyres and the Sprechers. In May, A. Quimby Allen, father of R. Q. and E. J. Allen; Philip Sprecher, father of John and George Sprecher: and John S. Miller arrived in a carriage from Maryland. Mr. Allen remained and taught the first school in the township. Mr. Sprecher returned to Maryland and brought his family back with him the following spring, settling upon a claim part of which is the farm now owned by Henry Moats, northeast of town. Others who came during 1838 and 1839 were John Smith, John Coffman and family, Henry Artz, Michael Brantner, Henry Sharer, Henry Hiestand and family, John Wallace, Sr., and others. Mr. Coffman, who was the father of Frank Coffman, of this place, settled about two miles southwest of the village, where he died several years ago. Mr. Artz lived for many years three and one-half miles southeast of the village, and has also died. Michael Branter lives near Maryland and is now well advanced in age. Henry Sharer is still an honored and respected citizen of Mount Morris, and passed his eighty-third milestone March 29, 1900. His portrait appears on page 25. John Wallace, who married a sister of Rev. Thomas and Samuel Hitt, owned the farm now the property of Mrs. Margaret Newcomer and cultivated by William Castle. He died at this place over forty years ago.



BENJAMIN SWINGLEY.

Among others who came during the early forties might be mentioned Jacob Turney, Michael Swingley, David Mumma, William Printz, Jonas Shafstall, Moses Crowell, Jacob Buck,

*WAGNER FAMILY REUNION IN 1896.*

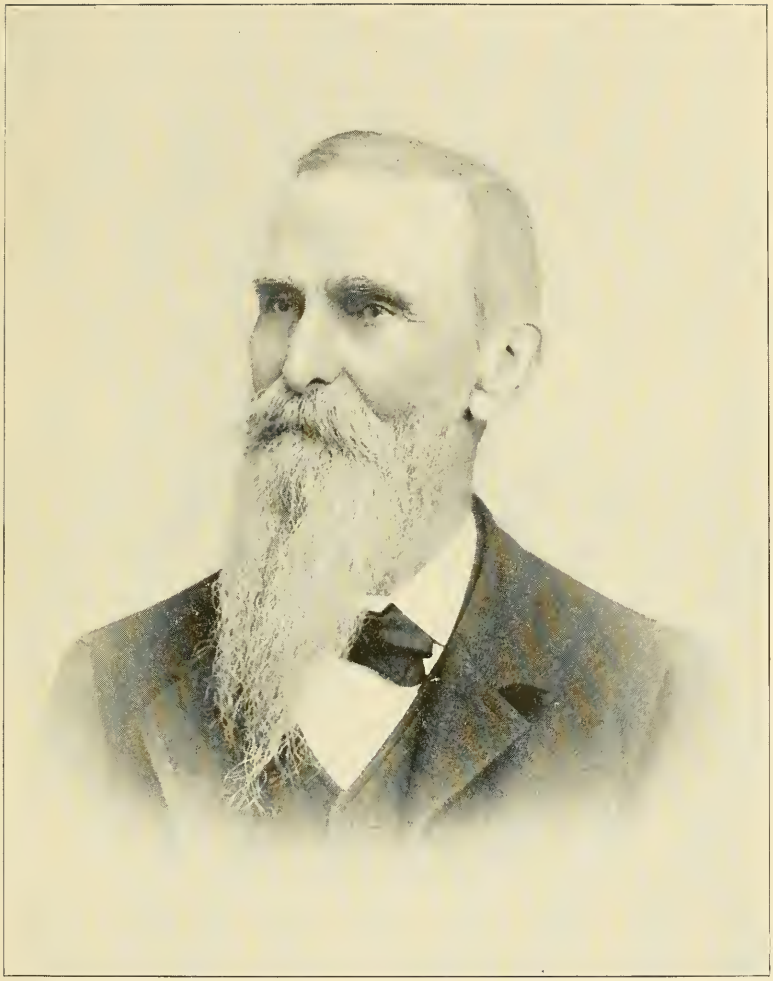
Daniel Wolfe, Joseph Rowe, Jacob Detrick, Samuel S. Fouts, Benjamin Myers, Silas Snyder, Adam Patterson, Otho Wallace, Solomon Nalley, Henry A. Neff, Bartholomew and Benjamin McNutt, Jacob Hiestand, William Watts, Daniel and F. B. Brayton, Peter, Emanuel, Jonathan, Jacob and Joseph Knodle, many of them with their families. Still later came Benjamin Swingley, whose portrait is shown on page 20; Frank Hamilton, Samuel Newcomer and his son Charles, George Avey, father of Josiah Avey: Emanuel, Henry and Andrew Newcomer: Joseph and Frisby Watts, and scores of others. About this time they began to come so rapidly that it would be useless to attempt to keep track of them. In fact, the Maryland people have never ceased coming, and today the great majority of the residents of Mount Morris township are either natives of Maryland or children of immigrants from that state. It is a noticeable fact, and one often commented upon, that the obituaries of those dying in this community, as published in the Mount Morris papers almost invariably contain the clause, "was born in Washington county, Maryland."

Much more than what has already been said concerning the appearance and condition of the country in the thirties and early forties and of pioneer life of those days, could yet be written. As has already been stated, the Indians had practically left this part of the country when the first settlers arrived, and no trouble was experienced with them. But the township did not entirely escape from the ravages of the early bands of prairie robbers who harassed the settlers principally by stealing their horses and smuggling them during the night-time along certain lines of dishonest settlers, something in the manner of the "underground railway" by which slaves were aided in their flight to Canada before the war. These prairie pirates were well organized all over the country, being a combination of horse thieves, counterfeiters and murderers. At a very early day they held almost undisputed and unobstructed dominion throughout this whole section of the country, and very few of the honest settlers were fortunate enough to keep all their property from being swept into the meshes of the net-work these land pirates had spread around them. The principal leaders of this gang of cut-throats were John Driscoll, John Brodie and Samuel Aikens and their eight sons, William Bridge and Norton Royce. Although none of them were residents of the township, their operations were often carried on in this vicinity. Their nefarious transactions became so intolerable at last that an organization of settlers, known as Vigilantes, was formed, the members of which proceeded to clear the country of these villains in a summary manner. A man by the name of John Campbell, of White Rock, captain of the Vigilantes, was shot by the Driscolls in 1841, and immediately the entire country was scoured until the murderers were caught. A brief trial was given them, the entire one hundred and eleven Vigilantes serving as a jury, and being found guilty, they were shot without further parley, each being pierced by over fifty rifle balls. By this vigorous action the settlers protected their interests very effectually until the time when the regular courts of justice dealt with this class of criminals. A number of settlers

from this vicinity had a hand in the execution of the Driscolls. The prairie fires is one of the interesting topics that might be discussed. At least once every year, and often several times in one season, some careless settler would allow fire to get started in the long grass on his claim; and, ere he could mend the mischief, the flames, fed by the thick growth of vegetation, would soon be speeding across the prairie with the speed of the wind, often faster than a horse could gallop,—a leaping, devouring wall of flame and smoke. The settlers kept these fires from devastating their fields and homes by plowing up the soil in wide tracts, over which the flames could not leap. Occasionally, persons were caught out upon the broad prairies by these fires, and were compelled to adopt summary means for protection, if flight were found impracticable. This was accomplished by starting a new fire at the place where they stood. This new fire, caught by the wind, would soon start ahead and burn a track upon which they could advance and be free from the fire advancing in the rear. When the country became fairly well settled, and one of these fires would get started, the men over the whole neighborhood would turn out to fight the devouring element. Many of our citizens can yet remember instances of this kind.

The first settlers found an abundance of game in this region. The most plentiful was the deer, thousands of which were native in the country. Mr. Michael Bovey avows having counted as many as sixty in a herd, and Henry Sharer, who was something of a hunter, claims to have seen herds containing over a hundred. While in the east Mr. Sharer was a great lover of fox-hunting with hounds, and he brought five good hounds with him when he came west in 1839. He soon found, however, that the still deer hunters here were very much opposed to hounds, because they tended to frighten the deer from the neighborhood. Accordingly, it was not long until all of his hounds had been shot. At that time one could not go through the timber very far without stirring up several droves of the timid deer, which, however, spent most of their day-time upon the prairie, if not too much molested, and retreated to the timber at night. They were very timid, and considerable experience was necessary to enable the hunters to get sufficiently close to kill them. Then, too, the hunters were not as well supplied with guns and ammunition as they might have been, since these articles had to be brought from Chicago by team. However, some of them were able to slaughter many of the deer, and a liberal supply of venison was kept on hand. The *Rock River Register*, a paper published in Mount Morris in 1842, of which a full account appears elsewhere, contains the following item of news, headed "Gunning Unparalleled," which shows to what extent deer were slaughtered then. It is interesting now, when a live deer would be a curiosity in this region.

> The extent to which David Mumma, of this neighborhood, shoots down our deer strikes us as being pretty alarmingly exhausting. While his extraordinary Nimrodian exploits render David our boast, yet we must fear that he is playing havoc with our game.
>
> He has shot *seventy* deer this season. He has sold deer skins to the amount of $30, besides which he has taken and sold otters' skins and other peltry. He is now taking a



HENRY SHARER.

load of venison (hindquarters) to Chicago. Here mark his *pro*-PENCE-City. Besides all this, he has feasted on the forequarters, and treated his neighbors bountifully to the same luxury.

In one of his hunts, he sent a bullet through the vitals of *three deer at once*, laying them all low. Who has ever equaled this shot? We ask who?

The deer in Ogle county have long since been exterminated. Probably the last killed in this vicinity were shot in 1862 by Reuben S. Marshall, several miles north of town. For a number of years previous very few of the animals were ever sighted, but these had evidently escaped the Nimrods of the country and wandered from some unfrequented timber, only to fall victims to Mr. Marshall's good marksmanship. These last deer were a buck, a doe and a fawn, all of which Mr. Marshall succeeded in killing.

Small game was also very plentiful in this vicinity. Prairie chickens without end nested on the prairie, and the hunters could bag them by the hundred. Wild ducks also were numerous in certain seasons and they afforded many a delicious repast for our hard-working fathers. There were some rabbits in the county, but not nearly as many as at the present time, —a rather peculiar fact. In the timber, squirrels of several varieties were plentiful, and pheasants were frequently met with.

In addition to the game animals there were two varieties of the wolf, —the grey and the red, the latter being much the smaller and more numerous. These animals were too small and timid to do the settlers bodily injury, but each possessed a very noticeable "bark," one being capable of making as much noise as a half-dozen dogs, as an old settler expressed it. Dozens of them in the winter time made the nights hideous with their barking and yelping, especially if there was a dog about to worry them. When the snow lay upon the ground for long periods, these animals would become desperate for something to eat, and at such times were quite bold in attacking some of the smaller domestic animals.

The long thick prairie grass harbored an endless number of different varieties of the snake, some of them being of a dangerous character. Rattlesnakes were probably the most numerous of the poisonous kind, and quite frequently some unwary youngster, and sometimes older people, would be bitten by them. Being on the alert for such emergencies, the settlers were able to administer speedy remedies, and fatal results were easily averted. Copper-heads, blue-racers and bull-snakes were also plentiful. Persons traveling on the prairie, whether for short or long distances, always carried a stout club, if not a gun, and no one ever lost the opportunity of dispatching all of these reptiles they chanced to meet. By this vigilance the cultivated portions of the prairie were in a few years practically freed from these dangerous pests.

Old settlers are frequently heard to remark upon the great abundance of wild strawberries which grew in the bottoms and along the timber. The berries grew in large luscious clusters, with long stems to hold the ripening fruit near the top of the high growth of vegetation. Those who gathered them in their childhood days affirm that they were sweeter and

better than the present cultivated species. Besides strawberries, the settlers had access to many wild plum thickets, the fruit from which was excellent and easily gathered. In the groves, hickory nuts and walnuts were so amazingly abundant that the amount gathered was but a tithe of those allowed to go to waste. Then, instead of rushing to the timber when the nuts were so green that a blow from a stout club would be necessary to disengage each individual nut from its twig, as the custom now is, the people waited until the frost burst open the hulls and the nuts could be gathered by the sackful under the trees.

At an early day fish were very abundant in Pine creek and Rock river. In the former stream, before the dam was built and when the water stood considerably higher than in late years, many fine fish came up from the river and were easily captured. Fishing was generally done with seines, there being no laws in those days to restrict it, as there are now.

The first fences built were of two varieties. When the owner of a claim had access to timber, he would probably split rails and construct the ordinary "worm," or "stake and rider," fence, which was common until late years, it being replaced principally by light but substantial patent wire fences, to keep up with the march of progress. The first fence built on the prairie, however, was constructed of sod. A ditch about three feet wide and four feet deep was dug, and the dirt thrown up to a height of four feet on one side, the sod taken from the ditch being planted on the ridge to keep it in shape.

Old settlers tell us that the winters of the thirties, forties and fifties were much more regular than in late years. Snow lay upon the ground all winter, and the weather continued cold until spring gradually took possession of the earth. Winter and spring and fall and winter weather apparently did not change to such sudden extremes, but converged more regularly. No cyclones were ever heard of.

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**The Village Founded**

The stories of the founding of Mount Morris and of Rock River Seminary are one and the same, and in a chapter devoted to the latter the subject is treated at some length. It will suffice to say here that the Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, which was deeply interested in the cause of education, had, at the earnest solicitation of many of the then limited members of the church in the state, concluded to establish a seminary in Illinois, and appointed a committee to select a location. The members of the Maryland colony determined to land the enterprise, if possible, and finally, having pledged an extraordinarily large sum, both in cash and in lands, they succeeded. The committee, May 4, 1839, proceeded to select a site for the future seminary, which was destined to exercise such an important influence in northern Illinois, and they "drove the stake" for the building on the summit into which the grandly-rolling prairie crested. From this point the committee had a commanding view of a large extent of country of almost marvelous beauty, dotted on every side with near-approaching

groves. Not a building was standing within the present corporate limits of Mount Morris when this selection was made, showing that the location of the seminary constituted the real founding of the village. The contract for the building was let at eighteen thousand dollars to James B. McCoy, father of J. E., A. S., and James McCoy. Work was begun at once.

The first house built within the corporate limits of the village was a small frame building erected by Mr. McCoy to board his carpenters. It was located within the present campus limits, across from the old Hilger house on the south side. In 1841 it was moved south to the present site of A. S. McCoy's residence. Later it was moved still farther south to the lot now owned by Robert Wright, where it was occupied for many years as a residence by William Fouke. At present it is situated in the rear of Mr. Wright's new house, and is being used as a barn. An engraving of it appears as the *frontispiece* of this volume. The house is not very inviting in appearance, but it is interesting because of its being the first house in Mount Morris.

The second building erected was, of course the seminary structure, the corner-stone of which was laid July 4, 1839. This structure stood through many years of usefulness, but was finally torn down in 1893, to give place to a ladies' new dormitory, which was erected a few rods west of the old foundation. The next building erected was a barn, raised by Rev. John Sharp in 1840. But living room being in great demand at that time, it was divided into two apartments and occupied by Rev. Philo Judson and Frederick Petrie together with their families, one family in each room. It was afterward finished up and moved to about the present site of William Miller's furniture store on Front street, and was transformed into the residence of M. T. Rohrer. Later it was torn down to give place for the erection of G. W. Deppen's opera house, now William Miller's furniture store. The next house built, the first expressly for a residence, was a brick structure occupying the present site of William Newcomer's residence. It was used for a time as a hotel and was finally torn down in 1872 by Andrew Newcomer, and the present frame building was erected in its place. Houses were built so rapidly after this that it is impossible to name them in the order of their erection. During the first several years the seminary was the only enterprise in the village, the inhabitants being principally those connected with that institution. During the latter part of 1841 the village acquired a newspaper, the *Rock River Register*, the publication of which was a rather hazardous experiment at that early day, as any one can readily conceive when the extreme sparseness of the population is taken into consideration. Of this publication more is said in a subsequent chapter. The state of the village upon the first day of January, 1842, when the first number of the *Register* was issued, is given in the following item, which appeared in that issue:

MOUNT MORRIS.

We hail from the top of Mount Morris; and it is our purpose, while we reign editorially, to hail very effectually,—each of our conglomerations being of the "weight of a *talent*."

Most seriously, we hail from the new and hale little village of Mount Morris, in Ogle county, state of Illinois (*en passant*, we shall not be very *ill* in NOISE; we hope to do a share of noise,—but to *Ogle* shall be far from us!).

Well, Mount Morris was well founded in the spring of 1841, and it is now already found, when not yet ten months old, to hold 282 souls, inclusive of the teachers and students at Rock River Seminary, which dignifies the center of the village. This day, Jan. 1, 1842, the citizens number 137, and the town consists of twenty-one houses.

Mount Morris is five miles west of Oregon city, in the same county, and eighty miles west of Chicago. It is handsomely situated on a considerably elevated portion of one of the most beautiful and extraordinarily fertile prairies which distinguish Illinois,—especially the Rock river region,—for abundance and excellence of agricultural productions.

Mount Morris is named in honor of Bishop Morris, of the M. E. church.

The everyday life of the citizens at that time contained much that would be novel indeed to the present resident of Mount Morris. Peter Knodle, who died at his home in Mount Morris in 1892, came to the township in the fall of 1841, and for a time after his arrival he kept a diary, which is still preserved by his wife, Mrs. Mary Knodle. The entries give some idea of the local conditions at that time. The record is considered to be of sufficient interest to reproduce here. Beyond a few necessary changes in orthography and grammar, the diary is given exactly as written by Mr. Knodle:

PETER KNODLE'S DIARY,

Commenced on

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1841.

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LANDED.—We were traveling for six weeks and finally landed at Mr. James Coffman's, on Wednesday at 10 o'clock A. M., September 29, 1841.

BUILDING.—We commenced building a frame house in Mount Morris, to live in, in order to be handy to the printing-office. Commenced on Monday, October 4.

EAST.—Mr. James Coffman is taking his seat in the stage this day for Washington county, Maryland. Wednesday, October 6.

RAISING.—We raised our house on Monday, October 10, with five hands: viz., father, Walter McNutt, Edmond Coffman, Jonathan Knodle and myself.

HAULING.—We brought from Pecatonica two loads of siding for our house on Tuesday, October 19.

FLOORING WORKED.—Walter McNutt and myself commenced working flooring plank on Wednesday, October 20.

RAIN.—We had a good shower of rain this day, or rather, to be more explicit, this morning. Tuesday, October 19.

FIRE.—There was a fire broke out west of Mr. James Coffman's, and drew towards the timber. We had hard fighting, as the wind was blowing hard against us. It was on Thursday, October 21.

HUSKING.—Mr. John Coffman husked his corn on Wednesday, October 27. Commenced about one o'clock P. M. and finished about dusk, and then returned to the house for supper.

TRIP TO CHICAGO.—Father started to Chicago for some articles, such as a cooking stove, window-sash, putty, glass, etc. Friday, October 29.

COVERING.—Commenced covering our house on Friday, October 29. The coverers were Walter McNutt and myself.

RAIN.—Saturday, October 30, we had considerable rain. It commenced raining early in the morning and continued until evening, when it commenced blowing and blew very rapid nearly all night.

WINDOW-FRAMES.—We made our window-frames on Monday, November 1. Walter McNutt and myself commenced in the morning and finished five frames till night. It was very stormy and rainy this day. It was thought that it was the heaviest wind that was experienced in this part of the country for more than eighteen months.

SNOW.—November 3. We had snow this day, to the depth of one-half an inch, and very hard winds with it, hard indeed and cool accordingly.

ARRIVED.—From St. Louis, Emanuel Knodle, November 18. He brought our press as far as Peru. He purchased type and other printing materials.

SNOW.—On Thursday morning, November 28, before daylight, it commenced snowing and storming, and continued most of the day. The depth of the snow was four inches.

MERCURY.—November 21, at half-past five o'clock P. M., the mercury stood at fifty-three degress. November 22, early in the morning, it was thirty-eight degrees. At five o'clock P. M., same day, it was thirty-five degrees. Tuesday, November 23, it was freezing most of the day.

SNOW.—Monday night, November 29, it snowed about an inch.

BUTCHERING.—John C. Coffman butchers Tuesday, November 30.

WOLF HUNT.—Samuel M. Hitt, Esq., Dr. J. J. Beatty and others turned out on a wolf hunt December 1.

BUTCHERING.—At James Coffman's, Thursday, December 2.

RECEIVED.—Our press on Saturday, November 29.

GOODS RECEIVED.—On Monday, December 6, Mr. Mc—— delivered our goods in Mount Morris; also Mr. Beeller's two boxes.

REMOVED.—Our press on Wednesday, December 18, to Mr. McFarland's, in a room that he rented to us.

MOVING.—On Thursday, December 9, we moved in our new house at Mount Morris.

RAIN.—A drizzling rain fell all day today and part of the night. December 14.

SNOW.—December 15 we had snow to the depth of about one-quarter of an inch.

ARRIVED.—On November 27 James Coffman and Nathaniel Swingley started from Washington county, Maryland, for Ogle county, Illinois, and arrived at Mount Morris December 16. They brought along a letter for me from my cousin Samuel Knodle.

DISTRIBUTING.—Commenced distributing type December 16, and also made a table for the forms, a galley, and other sundry articles for the office.

TRIP TO CHICAGO.—On Friday, December 17, father and Jacob Knodle started to Chicago to procure a stove for the printing-office, printing paper and many other articles.

COMPOSITION ROLLER.—I made a composition roller on Saturday evening, December 18. I got through with it about nine o'clock. I had a little difficulty in moulding it the first trial, it being too stiff, and we had to boil it a little more until it got a little thinner.

ACCIDENT.—On Monday, December 20, I was leveling the composing-stone in the press, and by pressing on it, it cracked clean across the width of the stone.

SNOW AND RAIN.—On Tuesday, December 21, it commenced snowing and raining, and continued until the next day.

SETTING TYPE.—Commenced setting type on Monday, December 13.

LYCEUM.—I was present when the merits of the Subtreasury system were debated on Friday evening, December 24. The decision was in favor of the Subtreasury system.

ARRIVED.—Father arrived from Chicago on Sunday, Dec. 26, with printing paper and stove for the office.

ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday, January 4, 1842, as I was going to the printing-office, I slipped and fell, cutting my wrist.

MERCURY.—January 4. Seven o'clock A. M., two degrees below zero. Noon, eight degrees above zero. Four o'clock P. M., four degrees above zero.

COMMENCED WORK.—On January 10, after having been delayed a week on account of having a sore arm.

CUTTING LOGS.—Jacob and Jonathan Knodle commenced cutting logs, to build a printing-office and workshop, January 14.

RECEIVED A PAMPHLET.—January 16, from Samuel Knodle. The postage was twenty-five cents, there being a few lines written therein.

VISIT.—Mr Philip Sales paid us a visit on Saturday evening, January 15. He remained with us all night.

SNOW.—On Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, January 18 and 19, there fell snow to the depth of six inches.

ACCIDENT.—On Monday morning, January 23, Mr. Steward met with a sad accident in cutting down a tree. It fell on him and broke his arm and leg. He lives near Daysville. Dr. Beatty is now attending him.

EDITOR REMOVED.—On Thursday, February 24, we removed Mr. Emanuel (Knodle) from the printing-office to Jonathan Knodle's, a distance of about one-half a mile.

A MEETING.—There was a meeting held in Oregon city, on Saturday, February 26, on this territorial question.

FOGGY.—This evening, March 1, it is so foggy that you cannot see one-quarter of a mile ahead, and it is thundering and lightening.

DIED.—At Mount Morris, on Sabbath morning, March 13, EMANUEL KNODLE, son of Samuel and Jane Knodle, of Washington county, Maryland, in the thirty-second year of his age.

STARTED TO THE EAST.—Mr. Lemond arrived here on the evening of March 20. He remained all night with us, and on the following morning started for Maryland, with the intention of moving to this country if he could arrange things to suit.

EXAMINATION.—The examination took place on Wednesday, March 5. On that same evening the ladies read their copies, and on Thursday evening the young gentlemen made their speeches, etc.

ARRIVED FROM MARYLAND.—On Monday evening, April 25, Michael Stonebraker, Daniel Wolfe and brother, and several more, arrived in Mount Morris from Maryland.

FOUNDATION FOR THE OFFICE.—Finished digging the foundation for the printing-office on April 24.

PLANTING CORN.—James Coffman commenced planting corn on Tuesday, May 3.

HAULING.—We commenced hauling plank, on Thursday, May 5, to fence in our lot and Miss Shepard's.

RAISING.—We raised our office on Monday, May 9.

MARRIED.—On Thursday, May 19, Michael Stonebraker to Catherine Coffman, eldest daughter of James Coffman.

DIED.—On Thursday evening, May 19, Michael Detrick.

HAIL STORM.—On Monday evening, June 27, about half-past eight o'clock, there was a hail storm. It blew the doors open, and broke twenty-five panes of glass for us and fifty or sixty for Bear's. I suppose there were five or six hundred panes of glass broken in Mount Morris.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM.—There was a lecture delivered Tuesday evening, June 25, in the seminary. There was a boy put to sleep, who, after he was asleep, commenced talking, and would answer anything that was asked him.

ARRIVED FROM MARYLAND.—On Thursday morning, about eleven o'clock, June 30, Messrs. Hiestand, Neff and family, Bartholomew McNutt and family and also his mother, and Benjamin McNutt.

PLASTERING.—We had the office plastered on Saturday, July 2, by Jacob Petrie.

HAIL STORM.—On Monday, July 4, there was a hail storm almost severe enough to break the panes of glass in the windows. It did break some of our neighbors' glass.

REMOVED.—We removed the office on Wednesday, July 6, in the part of our house that we had built on purpose for it.

VENTRILOQUIST.—There was a ventriloquist in our burg on Thursday and Friday evenings, July 7 and 8. He also went through the performance of some sleight-of-hand. This ventriloquism is first-rate.

ARRIVED.—John George Pea arrived here on July 30. He is just from New Orleans.

FROZEN.—The river froze over Friday night, November 18.

# CHAPTER II.

## THE GROWTH OF THE VILLAGE.

**History of Business Enterprises**

The first store in Mount Morris was a general one and was opened in October, 1841, by Daniel Brayton and son Frederick, in an addition on the west side of a small frame house, which they erected that summer at about the present location of Jesse Bollinger's property, on Main street midway between Short and Wesley streets. The senior Brayton was a Methodist minister, and occasionally preached in the old seminary chapel. The firm afterward changed to Brayton & Judson; and in 1850, after the death of Daniel Brayton, the business was conducted by F. B. Brayton & Baker, who discontinued all lines except the book and drug departments. Later Mr. Brayton, whose portrait appears on the next page, assumed entire control of the business, and conducted it for many years. In the early seventies John P. Hand became a partner. In 1873, Mr. Brayton's son, Arthur W., entered the business, and has owned and conducted it since that time. Thus it transpires that the first store in Mount Morris has continued up to the present day, and has been owned successively by three generations of the Brayton family, extending over a period of almost sixty years. During that time the firm name has contained that of the Brayton family, and for the greater part of that time the store has been the exclusive property of Daniel, Frederick, or Arthur Brayton, or a combination of father and son.

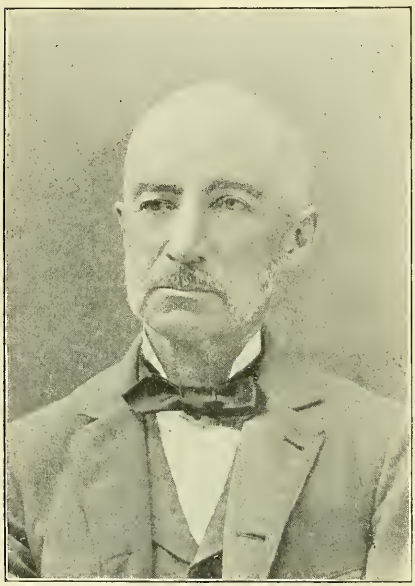
The second store of any importance was also a general store, opened several years after that of the Braytons by Samuel Bents. This store was located in a small brick building which stood on the northeast corner of Wesley and Front streets, the location of the present Seibert block. Mr. Bents sold out to S. M. Hitt and F. F. Petrie, who had previously been engaged in making brick in the northeast part of town. Enoch Wood succeeded Mr. Hitt, and associated with Mr. Petrie under the firm name of Wood & Petrie. This firm continued the business for many years. Mr. Wood finally sold out to H. J. Farwell. Coffman Brothers later acquired the stock. The business was discontinued by them shortly before the war.

A one-story brick machine-shop was built in 1844 by Baker, Pitzer & McCoy, on the corner now occupied by the Methodist church. Here they began the manufacture of traveling threshing machines. This business they continued for five years, and their machines, which threshed grain by being loaded and driven around in a circle, became quite popular. Mr. Baker afterward manufactured what were known as "Fountain" reapers.

In the year 1844, Hitt & Coffman built a grist-mill on Pine creek, southwest of town. A short time after this they opened the third store in

Mount Morris. This store was managed by Prof. D. J. Pinckney, and after a year was sold to F. B. Brayton.

About 1853, Messrs. Brayton, Baker and Petrie rented an old saw-mill located on Pine creek, about a mile below the dam, and fitted it up for the manufacture of linseed oil. This work they continued for about two years, turning out about two barrels of oil per day: but, as the facilities were not very favorable, they erected a new mill near the southwest part of town upon the present farm of Jacob Hilger. This mill was a large two-story structure with a stone basement. The machinery was operated by steam, which also ran a saw-mill. The enterprise was operated under the supervision of Jacob Hilger for about twenty years, it being then discontinued because of a scarity of flaxseed. During this time a terrible accident occurred in the saw-mill. Ernest W. Brayton, a brother of A. W. Brayton, and a lad of about ten years, was killed by coming in contact with the rapidly-revolving saw. F. G. Petrie also lost a hand by a similar accident. The building passed into the ownership of Petrie & Sheets, who transformed it into a flouring mill. This proved unprofitable, however, and the building was taken down and removed to the east side of Rock river, opposite Oregon, where it still stands.



FREDERICK B. BRAYTON.

Orville N. Adams, of Galena, opened a general store in Mount Morris about 1850, and after about eighteen months took in Prof. D. J. Pinckney as a partner. They also managed the grist-mill on Pine creek for one year. After that time the partnership was dissolved, and shortly after the mill was burned down.

A copy of the *Mount Morris Gazette*, dated January 23, 1851, preserved by Samuel Knodle, furnishes some interesting items in relation to the business of the town at that day. Mount Morris was then one of the most important business centers in Ogle county, as the general import of the paper plainly indicates. Among the advertisements, Bryant & Petrie advertise their hardware business; Wood & Petrie advertise dry-goods, groceries, crockery, glassware, paints, books and stationery; Brayton & Baker advertise general merchandise; William Little & Son inform the

public that they are prepared with seasoned lumber to extensively manufacture wagons, etc., and do all kinds of blacksmithing; George Brayton advertises to do all kinds of tailoring with neatness and dispatch; John Ankney announces the discontinuance of his business, and T. C. Ankney advertises his cheap auction store; Drs. B. G. Stephens and E. W. Myers publish their professional cards; William Hedges advertises to do all kinds of coopering; S. N. Beaubein advertises to make harness, saddles, etc., and trim carriages in the house formerly occupied by W. S. Blair. A notice of the Amphictyon Society appears, announcing that the following resolution will be discussed: *Resolved*, That the political and intellectual condition of Europe is improving. The notice is signed by A. N. Odel, Secretary. The Mount Morris Division Sons of Temperance also publish a notice, announcing meetings every Tuesday evening at their hall on Center street.

From the time of its founding in 1839, the village gradually increased in size and importance, until in 1855 it became a prominent trading point, and bid fair to become the largest place in Ogle county. But during that year the Illinois Central railroad was built through near Buffalo Grove, and the new town of Polo attracted much of the business which Mount Morris had formerly captured. The village, however, continued to grow nevertheless.

About 1854, Jonathan Mumma opened a store in the store-room west of his hotel; and in 1858, when J. M. Webb purchased the hotel, the store was sold to Potter & Webb. In 1856, Atchison & Clems conducted a clothing store, and Edward Davis dispensed confectionery to the students and others.

In 1866, after the close of the war, there appears to have been a considerable enlivening of trade in Mount Morris, and numerous new stores were started. In that year, John Sprecher and H. H. Clevidence opened a general store in the building occupied at present by Strock's grocery, on the corner of Center and Wesley streets. They continued in partnership twenty-five years, later occupying spacious quarters in the Masonic block. In 1891, they sold out to L. C. Stanley, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., who in turn sold to A. H. Knodle & Co. F. K. Spalding came next in succession, and after several years combined with his dry-goods the grocery stock of Ed. Cripe, who had been preceded by John Keever and Daniel Wingert in the grocery business, and moved into the Seibert block. This combined grocery and dry-goods business is now conducted by G. W. Deppen.

About the same year, Lookabaugh and Middour also established their business, and conducted it for over twenty years. Also during 1866 a branch of John Etnyre's store in Oregon was established here by Mr. Briggs, but was short-lived.

Quite a number of the present business enterprises of Mount Morris can be traced back over very long periods of time, as in several cases already cited. For instance, the grocery business of Charles H. Sharer is the continuation of a long succession of changes, dating back to the establishment, about 1860, of a grocery store by Henry Newcomer, father of

H. E. Newcomer. Mr. Newcomer sold to Henry Sharer, who took in John Swingley as a partner. The engraving on this page shows the condition of the business portion of the village at the time these gentlemen were in partnership. Note their sign upon the north wall of the building. The picture was taken in 1876, shortly after the erection of the building. But to continue, Sharer & Swingley sold out to William Rine, who took in his brother David as a partner. D. N. Wingert and John Swingley were the next purchasers, and later Mr. Wingert alone assumed the business. The

*BUSINESS BLOCK OF MOUNT MORRIS IN 1876.*

succession was then Lewis Funk, Wingert & Co. (here dry-goods were added); Wingert & Sprecher (Philip T.); Wingert & Brubaker; J. A. Brubaker & Co.; and Brubaker & Sharer (Charles H.). At the next transfer Charles Sharer took the grocery department and R. E. Arnold & Co. the dry-goods. The latter firm sold out to G. W. Hamlin, of Rochelle, in 1900, but Mr. Sharer still continues the grocery business.

The present grocery of J. Strock is another business which can be traced back quite a number of years. In 1875, William H. Bull purchased

a stock of groceries and placed them in the brick building now occupied by Mr. Strock. After a few years in the business he sold to Benjamin Rine. Holly Clark & Ira Wingert came next, and were followed by Newcomer Bros. (A. M. and W. A.) and John Tice. W. A. Newcomer and Mr. Tice purchased A. M. Newcomer's share, and in 1891 sold to J. Strock, who is the present owner.

In 1866, Andrew Newcomer, father of A. M. and W. A. Newcomer, started a small store in the house on Front street, now occupied by Robert Crosby, but soon sold out to George Windle. However, when his son, W. A., returned from the army in 1876, the two went into partnership, and conducted a grocery business until the death of the former, after which A. M. and W. A. Newcomer took charge. For a time William was engaged with Tice in another grocery, as mentioned before, and Arthur was sole proprietor until William again bought a half-interest, and the firm name of A. M. & W. A. Newcomer was adopted. In October, 1898, the former retired and his son, H. G. Newcomer, became a member of the firm, now known as the Newcomer Co.

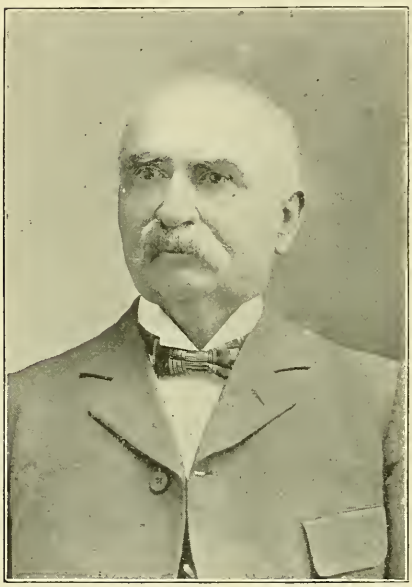
Joseph S. Nye conducted the first hardware store of any importance in Mount Morris. In 1857 he bought the tin-shop and hardware portion of the business of Brayton & Baker, and for its accommodation built the brick building on the corner of Wesley and Front streets, now occupied by C. E. Price's hardware. He continued the business for ten years, and finally moved his goods to Lanark. J. M. Smith & Pickard started a hardware in 1870. Later Pickard dropped out and subsequently Smith sold to I. B. Kinne, who disposed of the stock by various methods. Subsequently David Rine purchased a new stock of hardware and soon took in George Sprecher as a partner. Daniel Smith was the next purchaser, followed by Hitt, Smith & Co., B. F. Sheets & Co., Cushing & Armstrong, Armstrong & Price, J. D. Armstrong, and J. M. Piper, successively, and lastly by Clinton E. Price, the present owner.

One of the first meat markets in Mount Morris was established in 1873 by Samuel P. Mumma. He was succeeded by Samuel Middour, and Middour & Mumma (Benj.). Middour sold to Mumma, who conducted the business for many years. Henry H. and Ernest E. Newcomer and James Mumma were the next purchasers, the latter dropping out after three years. The later owners have been Benj. Rine, Rine & Whitman, and Wishard & Powell, the last-named being now in possession. There have been other meat markets conducted, but none of long duration.

The local grain-buying business did not commence in Mount Morris until after the building of the Chicago & Iowa railroad from Oregon to Forreston. The first carload of grain marketed from the village was raised and shipped to Chicago by Charles Newcomer, who erected the middle elevator in 1874. This elevator was sold to John Weller, and later became the property of H. H. Clevidence and Daniel Smith. The north elevator was built in 1875 by Daniel Sprecher, father of Lewis and Daniel Sprecher, Jr. H. H. Clevidence and John Sprecher purchased this elevator in 1879, and since 1894 it has been the property of the former, who

has been engaged in the grain business for more than twenty-six years. The south elevator was built in 1882, by Daniel Sprecher, and was sold to Daniel Smith. Thomas C. Williams, the present owner, purchased it of Mr. Smith. The grain business in Mount Morris, before the building of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad through Leaf River and the Chicago, Burlington & Northern through Stratford, was much more extensive than at present. Elevators were built at these towns, and seriously curtailed the extensive territory from which the Mount Morris elevators formerly drew the cereal products.

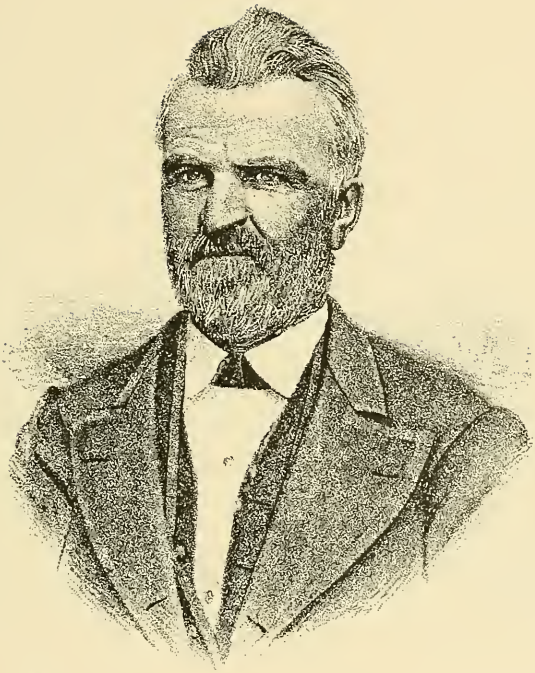
Samuel Mumma first began buying stock in Mount Morris in 1873, and began shipping extensively to the city market in 1879, which he has continued to do until the present time.



CHARLES NEWCOMER.

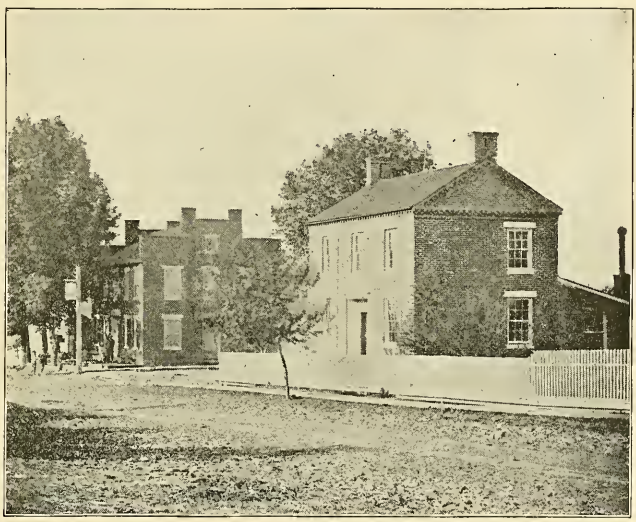
The first bank in Mount Morris was established August 1, 1877, by Charles Newcomer and Isaac Rice. The latter dropped out after several years and the former continued the business until January 1, 1899, a period of nearly twenty-two years, when the business was turned over to the Citizens' Bank. Mr. Newcomer is now living a retired life, enjoying the fruits of his labors. The Citizens' Bank was established in 1893 by Joseph L. and John H. Rice, and is now the only bank in the village.

The name of Hon. Isaac Rice stands second to none in connection with the growth and development of our village. Concerning his parentage we have made mention in Chapter I. Dr. Isaac Rice, as he was familiarly known, was born in Washington county, Maryland, October 28, 1826, and came to Ogle county in 1837, making the trip in company with his father and uncle, when they removed to the wild west. The senior Rice built a schoolhouse in this vicinity at a very early day, and Isaac "wielded the birch" in this educational institution when but eighteen years of age. He also attended Rock River Seminary and prepared for his profession under the preceptorship of Dr. Francis A. McNeill. In the winter of 1852 he entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, and graduated in 1855. After his graduation he returned to Mount Morris and engaged in farming, in which occupation he gained



Isaac. Rich

considerable renown as a successful tiller of the soil. In 1876, he located his home in Mount Morris, and in the following year he associated with Charles Newcomer in the establishment of the Mount Morris Bank, as related before. In 1872 and 1874, he was a member of the State Assembly, and in the fall of 1880, he was elected to the upper house of the Legislature of Illinois. January 14, 1857, Mr. Rice was married to Sarah Hiestand, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Hiestand. His wife had been one of the playmates of his youth, and later was one of his pupils in the pioneer schoolhouse. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Rice: Roland, February 10, 1858, who died in infancy; Anna, March 22, 1850, who died at the age of eighteen; and Joseph L., December 23, 1866, who is now



A VIEW OF BLAIR'S HOTEL IN 1873.

*Note the diminutive size of the maple, in front of the brick on the right, now grown to enormous proportions.*

engaged in banking in Mount Morris. Dr. Rice died at his home in Mount Morris in 1897.

The hotel business dates back almost to the founding of the village. Daniel Brayton kept a public house from the time of the establishment of his store, about 1841. The first regular tavern was erected by James Clark several years later. The building is still standing, being the old brick on the corner of Wesley and Main streets, now owned by George Sprecher and occupied by Rigdon McCoy as a shoe-shop and M. F. Maloney as a residence. After running this for a short time, under the name of the "New York House," Mr. Clark returned to his farm at Washington Grove and rented his tavern to Mr. Brayton. In 1851, W. S. Blair opened

Blair's Hotel in the brick house on the corner of McKendrie and Bangs streets. This building has since been converted into the residence of Dr. George B. McCosh. An engraving of this old house and also that now occupied by N. A. Ankney, as they appeared from the the northeast in 1873, appears on the preceding page. The brick house to the right was occupied from 1863 to 1875 by Samuel Knodle, as a residence. With the exception of about two years Mr. Blair continued to conduct this hotel until about the year 1880. In 1854, Jonathan Mumma built the old hotel on the present site of Hotel Rohrer, and, under the caption of the Eldorado House, kept boarders, principally students, until 1858, when it was purchased by J. M. Webb; and, after 1860, it was continued for many years as Webb's Hotel. After the death of Mr. Webb, the house was enlarged and was conducted successively by Mrs. J. M. Webb, Sr., Mrs. Benj. Rine, Mrs. Mary McCoy, Andrew J. Long, and Charles Rohrer. Mr. Rohrer built the present Hotel Rohrer in 1894, and died soon afterward. Since that time the landlords have been J. I. Housewert and A. T. Olson. The hotel is owned at present by a stock company of business men of the village.

Previous to the building of the railroad through Mount Morris, lumber for building was hauled from Chicago and Rockford, and later from Polo and other nearby towns. After the completion of the railroad, the first regular yard was established by John Nye, father of U. C. Nye. The succession of its owners from that time to this has been: John Nye, Henry Gilbert, Philip Sprecher, Riner & Clark, Minnesota Lumber Company, and lastly, Clark & Wingert, the present owners.

The tonsorial profession in Mount Morris was ably represented in the past by a number of artists, notable among whom were William Star, Boone Washington, and Joseph Patterson, colored; and Daniel Bowers.

The bakery business has been represented by a large number of bakers, most of them continuing in business but a short time. Ed. O. Startzman was one of the first, and is yet in the business after a term of about twenty-four years.

*Kett's History of Ogle County*, in a short sketch of Mount Morris, gives the following list of the business enterprises of the village, with the dates of their establishment, which existed in 1878, at the time of the publication of that history:

General Merchants.—Lookabaugh & Middour, May, 1866; Sprecher & Clevidence, 1866; Gilbert Bros., formerly Gilbert & King, April 7, 1874; Newcomer Bros., December 12, 1877.

Hardware.—J. M. Smith, formerly Smith & Pickard, 1870; Hitt, Smith & Co., April 23, 1877.

Groceries.—Wingert & Swingley, 1874; William H. Bull, March 17, 1875.

Druggists.—A. W. Brayton, formerly F. B. Brayton, 1860; O. H. Swingley, November 11, 1868.

Furniture.—Upton Miller, 1873.

Hotels.—Blair's Hotel, 1851; Webb's Hotel, 1858.

Restaurants.—E. O. Startzman, November 25, 1876; H. Jimmerson, June 21, 1877; S. Knodle, 1877.

Carpenters and Builders.—George H. Riner, N. E. Buser, 1868; B. Rine, J. T. Stewart, Jonathan Knodle.

BLACKSMITHS.—A. W. Neff, Calvin A. Potter, 1852; Nicholas Koontz.

WAGON MAKERS.—Joseph Knodle, B. F. Tracy.

LUMBER DEALER.—P. T. Sprecher.

HARNESS MAKERS.—Joseph F. Thomas, 1873; H. H. Newcomer, Sr.

JEWELERS.—J. A. Knodle & Son, 1875.

BUTCHERS.—Smith & Eberts, 1877; Middour & Lookabaugh, 1877.

LIVERYMEN.—H. L. Smith, May, 1876; the first livery stable was kept by Peter Funk, then C. C. Wagoner, then F. B. Brayton, then H. L. Smith; others having engaged in that business at various times.

BOOT AND SHOEMAKERS.—George W. Fouke, Peyton Skinner, 1854; M. F. Noel, 1856.

TAILORS.—C. B. Stanger, 1870; W. E. Moats, 1876.

MILLINERS.—Mrs. C. Startzman, Mrs. Mary McNeill.

MANTUA MAKER.—Mrs. Sarah J. Coggins, 1845.

PHYSICIANS.—Dr. D. Newcomer, Allopath; Dr. B. G. Stephens, Allopath, 1850; Dr. John McCosh, Allopath, 1863; Dr. R. Berry, Physio-Medical, 1878.

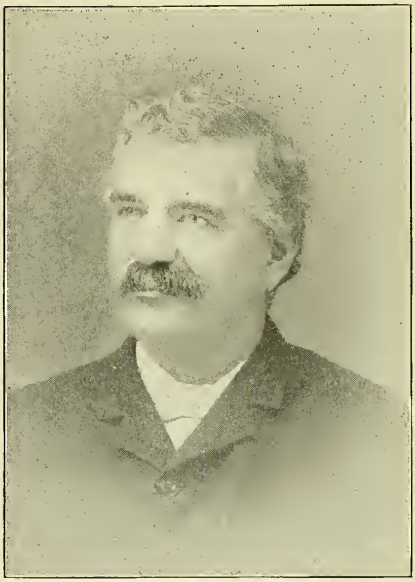
PAINTERS.—S. G. Trine, 1859; Peter Householder, L. J. Brogunier.

BARBER.—Daniel Bowers.

The medical profession in Mount Morris was first represented by Dr. James J. Beatty, who practiced here sixty years ago. His practice extended over a very large territory. While returning from a professional call over near Forreston, at one time he had a very thrilling, and well-nigh fatal, adventure. He was astride a very fine horse, and, being in a hurry to reach home, attempted to ride the animal through a prairie fire, depending upon its fleetness of foot to carry him through without injury. However, the animal stopped, crazed by the fire, and stood stock-still, while the rapidly-moving flames licked up the long grass around them. Both horse and rider were terribly burned. The doctor recovered from his burns, but the horse died from the experience. Apparently the doctor's ill-fortune clung to him; for a few years later, while *en route* for the California gold-fields, he was taken ill and died on the plains. Other doctors of prominence who practiced in Mount Morris in the past are Augustus Post, Benjamin G. Stephens, Francis A. McNeill, Thomas Winston, J. I. Mershon, W. T. Speaker, and David Newcomer. The last-named physician deserves more than a passing notice, in virtue of his long connection with the affairs of our village,—nearly thirty years,—during which time he has attended and ministered to our sick. Dr. David Newcomer was born July 26, 1830, in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and was of Swiss descent. November 18, 1852, he was united in marriage to Mary S. Funk, who was born in the same township as himself. In 1859, he graduated from the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and returned to the place of his nativity, to practice his profession. In May, 1862, he received his appointment as Assistant Surgeon of the Army of the Potomac, and at once entered upon his duties. He filled this position with credit, and after a service of nine months he was honorably discharged. In 1865, he went to Martinsburg, West Virginia, where he established his practice. After six years' residence at this place, he determined to try the already famous state of Illinois, and came to Mount Morris in 1871. He has since resided here, continuing in active service up to a few months ago, when failing health compelled him to relinquish his practice and retire. To Mr. and Mrs. Newcomer were born six children, two of whom are dead. Those

living are: Mary Katie, wife of M. W. Solenberger, of North Dakota; Barbara Ann, married to J. W. Thomas, a retired Lutheran minister, now residing in Mount Morris; David is in business at Kansas City, and is married to Nellie McFadden; Harry C. is a graduate of West Point Military Academy and is serving his country as a soldier.

In 1878, John Hitt and Thomas Mumma erected a large building in the south of town. Here they established the Mount Morris Creamery, with a capacity of one thousand cows, for the manufacture of butter and cheese. This was a valuable addition to the business interests of Mount Morris. The creamery passed through a number of hands; viz., Michael Miller, William H. Jackson, Campbell & McMaster, and is at present owned and operated by Robert C. McCredie. The old building was burned down some years ago and a new one erected to take its place.



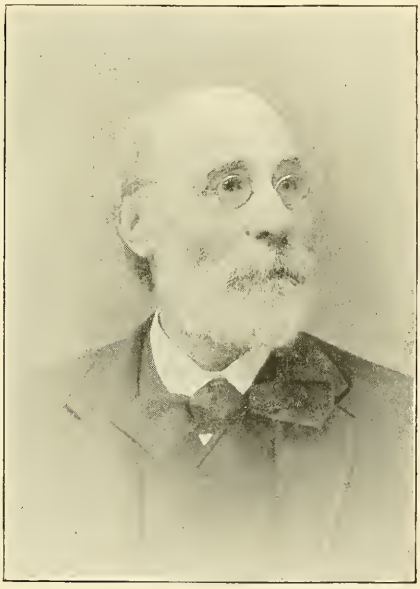
DR. DAVID NEWCOMER.

Alfred R. Binkley has been a figure in the business circles of Mount Morris during the greater part of the past twenty years. About 1880, he bought a confectionery business, which had been started by Charles H. Allen and continued later by by Samuel H. and Samuel E. Sprecher. Adding a stock of groceries, he conducted this business for fifteen years. He then sold to Jacob G. Miller who later disposed of the stock at auction. Mr. Binkley again started a grocery store in 1896 with Oliver S. Watts as a partner, but soon dropped out, leaving the business to Mr. Watts, who still conducts it. Again, in September, 1899, Mr. Binkley established a grocery in Mount Morris, having brought a stock of goods from Forreston, and is now in the business.

William H. Miller took up the furniture and undertaking business, which his father had been conducting, in the year 1892, and has been found regularly in his place since that time.

John D. Miller opened a harness shop in Mount Morris in 1888, having previously followed the profession of telegraph operator. Since that time he has been one of the town's business men, and has followed the harness trade ever since his advent into the mercantile circles of our promising village.

One of the most prominent men in the business circles of Mount Morris the past half-century was Samuel Knodle, who retired from business in the spring of the present year (1900). Mr. Knodle came to Mount Morris in 1856, expecting to teach the village school; but circumstances favoring his embarking in the jewelry business, he relinquished the pedagogical profession, and in May, 1856, opened a jewelry shop in rooms in the Eldorado House, then conducted by Jonathan Mumma. From that day until his retirement, as mentioned before, he continued to pursue that avocation. At the time of his retirement he could claim the distinction of having been engaged in mercantile business a longer period of time than any other man in the village. In connection with the jewelry business, he was identified with the various newspaper enterprises up to 1879. His connection with these newspapers is given in another chapter upon the press. Mr. Knodle was born at Fairplay, eight miles south of Hagerstown, Maryland, August 4, 1820. He secured a common school education at the Fairplay public schools, and acquired an academic education while engaged as a clerk in a number of stores. In May, 1843, he became a teacher in the Boonsboro public schools, and filled that position three years. He was also in partnership with his brother Josiah in the publication of *The Odd Fellow* at Boonsboro. In 1846, he began the publication of the *Williamsport Times*, continuing it two years, after which he again engaged in teaching, this time at Fairplay. He retained this position eight years, and then came to Mount Morris. During his long residence here he was very active in local affairs. He was clerk of the township of Mount Morris from 1858 to 1861, and he was village clerk in 1860, 1861 and 1868. In 1871, he served as village trustee and president of the board. In 1883, he was again elected village clerk, and was annually re-elected up until the present year, when he refused to be renominated. In 1876, he was collector of the township of Mount Morris. Few men have had such a close and extensive connection with local affairs as Mr. Knodle, nor enjoy a greater degree of the esteem of their fellow-citizens. He is passing his declining years at Oregon.



SAMUEL KNODLE.

The past decade of this closing century has brought in a number of new firms. John Sprecher, after ending his long business career in partnership with H. H. Clevidence, rested several years, and then, in 1893, again entered the mercantile circle, with S. C. Kinsey as a partner. In 1895, Mr. Kinsey sold out, and Mr. Sprecher continued the business alone until 1899. Since that time W. W. Wheeler has been a member of the firm. Melchor Newcomer, in 1888, established a grocery and dry-goods store in the Seibert block. D. S. Cripe became a partner in 1891, and in 1893 became proprietor, and he is still in the business. McCosh & Mishler launched in the drug business in 1896. Since 1899, the former has conducted the business alone. H. J. Wolfe started a bakery in 1895, and since his death, several years ago, the business has been continued by his son Walter. S. A. Shriner started a new harness shop in 1898, and B. E. Avey, a hardware store in the spring of the present year. N. E. Buser established a lumber yard in 1893, which was later purchased by J. T. Baker and Frank Coffman, the present owners. More extensive mention is made of all these in a later chapter upon the present condition of the village.

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**Building up of the Village**

Mention has already been made of the erection of the first few residences in the village. Many of the early houses were built of brick, which were burned in this vicinity. A brick-kiln was situated in the northeast part of the village, and another upon the Samuel Domer old farm, northwest of the village. David Gloss was one of the men engaged in burning brick and also Samuel Domer. The college buildings were constructed of stone, quarried from sandstone ledges on the farm of Josiah Avey along Pine creek.

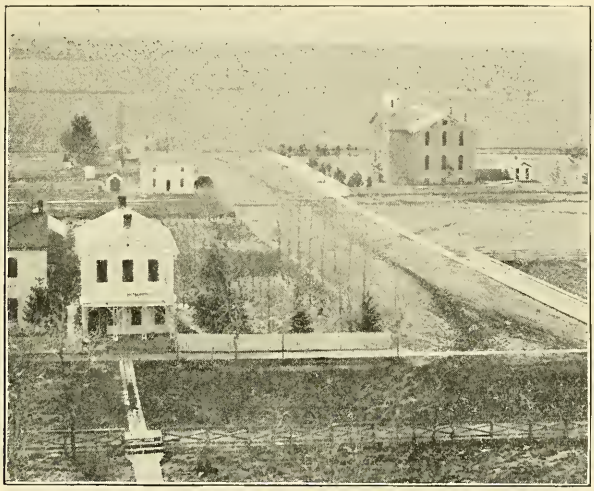
By the courtesy of Samuel Knodle, we are able to reproduce a number of old photographs of the village, taken in the early seventies. Probably those most interesting are three looking eastward over the business part of the village at slightly different angles from the cupola of "Old Sandstone." The view shown on page 48 shows the village as it appears looking directly eastward from the cupola. The two larger views following, the first looking northeast and the second, southeast, include all and more than the small view, and accordingly the explanations will be made from them.

The view on page 49 will prove to be exceedingly interesting to a person knowing the present conditions. It is readily seen that the entire business portion of the present village, from and including Seibert's block northward to beyond Gregor Thompson's building, is entirely lacking. The two-story brick building, numbered 1, on the corner occupies the present location of Seibert's block. The residence marked 3 is on the present site of Mrs. Mary McCoy's millinery store and part of that occupied by William H. Miller's furniture store. In the foreground is seen a winding path, leading across the campus through what is apparently a growth of underbrush, now grown up a stately maple grove. Four saddle horses are hitched along the street, showing the usual mode of travel in

those days. The brick house numbered 1 was built some time between 1842 and 1845, but at first was only one story high. In this building Wood & Petrie kept their general store at an early day, and later Lookabaugh & Middour were engaged in business there. The building was torn down in 1873 to give place to the present Seibert block.

No. 2 was at one time occupied by Peter Funk. It is still standing and is owned and occupied by Rigdon McCoy.

No. 3 occupies the present location of William H. Miller's store, formerly Deppen's opera house. It was occupied for many years as a residence by Martin Rohrer. The east half is the building spoken of on page 29 as the barn built in 1840 by Rev. John Sharp. The west half was built on later for a restaurant by James Fouke.



VIEW SOUTH FROM "OLD SANDSTONE" ABOUT 1870.

*When this picture was taken, the schoolhouse had been built but a short time. The small size of the pine trees in the yard is very noticeable.*

No. 4 was recently purchased and moved to the south part of town by G. B. McCosh. Here it was remodeled and is now the residence of William Domer. The house between Nos. 3 and 4 was last used as a residence by A. W. Neff, but was torn down and John Deppen's present residence erected in its place.

No. 5 was the residence of Andrew Newcomer. The frame part was moved several rods westward and a new house built in its place several years ago by Mrs. Newcomer.

No. 6 is the old schoolhouse, afterward used by William H. Miller as a residence. It has been superseded by Mr. Miller's present fine house.

No. 7 is the present residence of P. T. Sprecher. A part of it was built by Abram Thomas.

No. 8 is the brick house owned by Mrs. Crawford and occupied by S. A. Shriner.

No. 9, which is but faintly discerned behind the trees, is the old brick hotel on the corner of Front and McKendrie streets, which has been replaced by William Newcomer's house.

No. 10 is the present residence of Martin T. Rohrer. It was built by Elias Baker.

No. 11 is the old house occupied until recently by Miss Maria Malone. It was moved to the Amick Addition in the spring of 1900 by S. E. Avey.

*VIEW DIRECTLY EAST FROM "OLD SANDSTONE" IN 1870.*

Nos. 12 and 25 (see plate on page 51) were built about 1857 or 1858, and were the first brick buildings built in the regular square mercantile shape. No. 12 was built by Brayton & Baker for their store, and is the building now occupied by C. E. Price as a hardware store. No. 13 originally occupied that position and was used as a store by Brayton & Baker, but was moved to the position in the rear, as shown in the picture. It was again moved at a later date to the rear of the livery stable now owned by Charles Niman, and used as a building in which to bale hay and straw. It was finally torn down.

No. 14 was occupied for many years by John Stewart. He replaced it with a new building, which is now owned by Miss Callie Black.

*VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST FROM "OLD SANDSTONE" ABOUT 1870.*

*VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST FROM "OLD SANDSTONE" ABOUT 1870.*

No. 15 was built in 1858 by D. C. and B. Wagner. It was later raised to two stories and is the present meat market building.

No. 16 was also built by Brayton & Baker. After standing there for a number of years, it was moved to the corner of First and A streets, in the Railroad Addition, and is now serving as the residence of A. J. Long.

No. 17 was built in 1854 by Joel K. Frost, who also had a blacksmith shop a little to the northeast of this residence. This house was subsequently owned by H. T. Knight, and is now the property of Richard Shaw.

No. 18 (see plate on page 51) is the old Masonic building. It was built about 1848 and used as a Masonic hall from that time until 1876, when the present Masonic block was erected, part of the site of which it occupied. It is now standing north of No. 25 and is being used by S. A. Shriner as a harness shop. Previous to its occupancy by Mr. Shriner, Samuel Knodle was stationed there for thirteen years with his jewelry store. In this venerable old building many of the old, old citizens of Mount Morris met and became Masons, a fuller account of which will appear in a chapter on secret societies.

No. 19 was built some time in the forties, and was occupied as a bookstore by Samuel Knodle from 1862 until 1876. In the place of this building and No. 18, the present Masonic edifice was erected.

No. 20 is the Sons of Temperance old building, and at the time of the photograph it was occupied as a shoe store by W. H. Atchison. It was later owned by C. H. Swingley. It was removed to the present site of Dr. McCosh's building, and a small part of it is now contained in that structure.

No. 21 is Peyton Skinner's old shoe-shop. The awning in front, constructed of boughs of trees, is the style of artificial shade which the business men made along the street during the great excitement always connected with the seminary annual "exhibitions," as the final exercises at the seminary were called. This little building was moved back and is still standing in the rear of the new shoe-shop which Mr. Skinner erected and which is now occupied by Hess's restaurant.

No. 22 was the property of Edward Davis, father of Solomon Davis, who kept the post-office there at one time. It was torn down in 1899 to make room for H. E. Newcomer's new brick building.

No. 23 was, at the time the picture was taken, the office of Dr. B. G. Stephens, who died in Mount Morris some years ago.

No. 25 was built in 1857 by Joseph S. Nye and used as a hardware store by him for about ten years. Since that time the building has had a great many occupants, many of the later firms which did business in the village having had their origin there. It is now owned by Reuben S. Marshall and occupied by Strock's grocery. No. 26, just east of No. 25, was built by Mr. Nye as his residence.

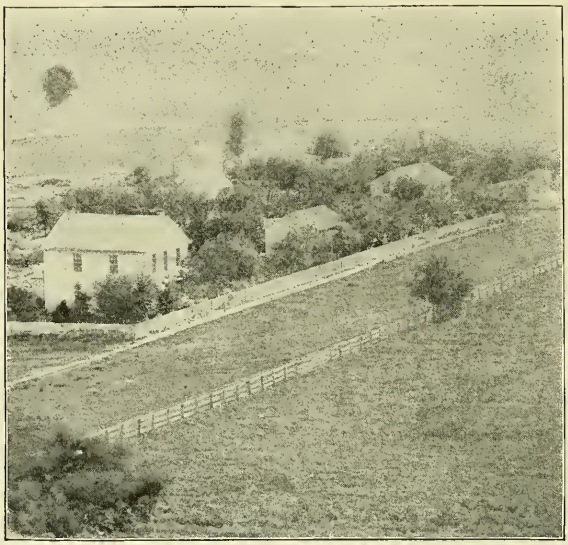
The little building at the left of No. 25 was later moved northward and repaired, forming at present the barber-shop of Levi Bear.

No. 27 was built at an early day by John Ankney, who came here from Buffalo Grove, where he was a very early settler. The building was used

by him as a residence and post-office, the latter being kept in the grout addition on the west side, which has since been torn down. The main structure is still standing, having served as the residence of Peyton Skinner for many years.

No. 28 once stood near the grist-mill along Pine creek and was used as the residence of the miller. It was moved to Mount Morris probably during the sixties, and was used as a residence by various parties. Later a new house superseded it.

No. 29 was built by W. S. Blair. It has been superseded by the house now occupied by Joseph Baker.



VIEW SOUTHWEST FROM "OLD SANDSTONE" ABOUT 1870.

*Notice that the college campus then included the two blocks to the west of the present campus limit, now entirely built up with new residences. The house to the left is the old parsonage of the Methodist church now owned and occupied by J. W. Crump.*

No. 30 is the present residence of John Sprecher, Sr. It was built and occupied for a time by Henry A. Neff and family.

No. 31 is still standing, being the residence of Mrs. Samuel Domer. The rear of it was built by Henry Frost and the front part by Henry Middlekauff.

No. 32 is the John Holsinger old house on the corner of Clark and Bangs streets. It has been replaced by Oliver S. Watts's fine residence.

No. 33 is Samuel Mumma's present residence. It was built by Mrs. Spenser Mattison.

No. 34 was built in 1855 by F. B. Brayton, and for many years was the finest residence in Mount Morris. It is now occupied by his son, A. W. Brayton. A modern view of this residence with its elegant park-like lawn is found elsewhere in this volume.

No. 35 is Daniel Eversole's house, of which further mention is made in the chapter dealing with the history of our public schools.

No. 36 was built by Cyrus Alden, and is now owned and occupied by Prof. J. G. Royer.

No. 37 is readily discerned to be the present residence of Charles H. Sharer. From an early day it was owned by his father, Henry Sharer.

No. 38 is the residence of Frisby Keplinger.

No. 39, at the time this picture was taken, was being used as the Lutheran church. It was later purchased by the Christian denomination, and the present steeple added to it. A modern view of it appears in the chapter upon church history. It was built in 1845.

No. 40 is the livery barn, which, having been several times remodeled, is now occupied by Niman's livery.

In this picture can be seen four more saddle horses hitched along the street.

A few years after the time the preceding views were taken of Mount Morris, the Chicago & Iowa railroad was built through the town and a remarkable business boom followed. Elevators were built and the grain and stock-buying industries commenced. Robert R. Hitt, M. Emery Hitt and Emily Hitt laid off the Railroad Addition to the village in 1872. This has since been substantially built up. Morris Hitt thought that the building of the railroad north of the business portion of the village would draw all new mercantile structures in that direction, and consequently he erected a store building a few rods south of the depot, on the corner of Second and Wesley streets. His supposition, however, proved a mistake and later his building was moved southward to the business portion of the village. The structure is now used by A. W. Brayton for his drug-store. The cellar which was dug under the building can yet be seen on the vacant lots east of George Sprecher's residence. Shortly after the building of the railroad a number of large brick structures were built and smaller frame store buildings. Seibert's building, a two-story brick edifice having a hall above and three business rooms below, was commenced in 1873 and completed in March of the following year. During 1874, another large two-story building, costing twelve thousand dollars, was erected by Henry Sharer, John Sprecher and J. H. Nye. This building also contains three store rooms on the first floor. During the seventies were also erected the present Masonic building and the brick structure now occupied by O. S. Watts's grocery. The first was built by Sprecher & Clevidence in 1876 and the second by Cyrus Alden in 1875.

Since the boom of business during the seventies the village has continued to advance with a healthy growth. During the years from 1891 to

1894, or thereabouts, another impulse of prosperity overtook the village, as a result of which more than seventy-five new residences, two new college buildings, the Old Folks' Home, five or six store buildings, a bank building and various other structures of more or less importance, were erected. During 1894, more buildings were put up in Mount Morris than in all the other Ogle county towns combined.

Concerning the present progress of Mount Morris, its business interests and many desirable qualities as a place of residence, an entire chapter is devoted later on.

# CHAPTER III.

## INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE.

In an investigation of the past history of the churches, schools, and even of the township of Mount Morris, it is found that the old records, in the majority of cases, have been woefully neglected, many of the old books being entirely lost sight of. In the case of the village, however, the clerks whose duty it was to keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Village Board of Trustees preserved the old records from the time of the first movement toward organization of the corporation to the present time.

From the time when the first settlers built their rude dwellings within the present limits of Mount Morris, late in the thirties, until 1848, Mount Morris was simply a precinct of Ogle county. The first step toward incorporation was made December 28, 1847, when copies of the following notice were posted about the town:

A MEETING

of the inhabitants of the town of Mount Morris will be held at the chapel of said town on Saturday, the 8th day of January, (1848), at 2 o'clock, for the purpose of determining whether we will incorporate said town. (*Signed*)

MOUNT MORRIS, Dec. 28, 1847. MANY CITIZENS.

STATE OF ILLINOIS. } SS.
OGLE COUNTY. }

I, Daniel Brayton, of Mount Morris, Ogle county, Illinois, do hereby solemnly swear that there was over two hundred inhabitants residing in the town of Mount Morris, Ogle county, and state of Illinois, on the 28th day of December, 1847, and that on the same day I posted three notices in three of the most public places in said town. The above notice, signed "Many Citizens," is a true copy of said notice.

DANIEL BRAYTON.

*Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of January*, 1848.
E. WOOD, J. P. { SEAL }

In conformity to the above notice, a meeting of the white male inhabitants, of the lawful age, who had been residents of the village six months immediately preceding this date, or who were owners of freehold property in the village, was held, as ordered, in the seminary chapel, at the time specified. On motion, Daniel Brayton was called to the chair and F. G. Petrie appointed clerk. The following obligation was then taken:

I, Daniel Brayton, as president, and I, F. G. Petrie, as clerk, do solemnly swear by the everliving God, that we will faithfully discharge the trust reposed in us as president and clerk of this meeting.

*Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of January*, 1848.
F. G. PETRIE, Clerk.

A *viva voce* vote, to decide whether the village should be incorporated, was then taken. Nineteen votes were cast in favor of the measure and none against. The following notice was also posted by Daniel Brayton on the twenty-eighth day of December, 1847:

NOTICE.

A meeting of the inhabitants of Mount Morris will be held in the chapel of Rock River Seminary on the 15th day of January, 1848, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing, *vive voce*, five (residents and freeholders of said town) trustees of the same.

MOUNT MORRIS, Jan. 8, 1848. F. G. PETRIE, CLERK.

This meeting was duly held, and the following trustees were chosen: Aaron C. Marston, Andrew Newcomer, James J. Beatty, Jonathan Knodle, Sr., and William McCune. On the twenty-second day of January, 1848, this board, with A. C. Marston as clerk, formulated and passed eight ordinances, which, possibly with a number of revisions, form the groundwork of the present excellent village ordinances. They are quite interesting from the fact that they are the first laws passed by the first Board of Trustees of Mount Morris. They are as follows:

PREAMBLE.

We, the president and trustees of the town of Mount Morris, as a body corporate and acting in accordance with the powers vested in Chapter 25, Section 12, of the revised statutes of the state of Illinois, do hereby declare and make known the following, as below subjoined, to be nuisances within our jurisdiction, and that after ten days' public notice being given, the same shall take effect. And any person or persons persisting, in whole or in part, in any infringement of the laws herein provided or enacted by said Board of Trustees, be it unto them made known that civil process will be immediately issued against them according to the laws herein provided.

ARTICLE 1.—Be it ordained by the president and Board of Trustees of the town of Mount Morris that the boundaries of said corporation shall be as follows: Commencing at a stake set at the southwest corner of the land owned by the Rock River Seminary, thence on a line due north one mile, thence east one mile, thence south one mile, thence west one mile to the place of beginning.

ARTICLE 2.—Be it further ordained by the president and Board of Trustees of the town of Mount Morris, that the licensing of groceries for the purpose of retailing spiritous or malt liquors within the jurisdiction of the corporation is strictly injurious to the good and well-being of the citizens of said corporation.

ARTICLE 3.—*Resolved*, therefore, and be it ordained by the president and trustees aforesaid, that the sale or vending of spiritous or malt liquor is, by virtue of this ordinance, strictly prohibited, and any person or persons found violating said ordinance, he or they shall be subject to pay a fine not exceeding five dollars for each offense.

ARTICLE 4.—Provided always and be it ordained by the president and Board of Trustees of the town of Mount Morris, that a permit may be granted from time to time for the sale of spiritous liquors for medical and mechanical purposes, and for none other.

ARTICLE 5.—Be it ordained by the president and trustees of the town of Mount Morris, that all gambling and drunkenness of whatsoever class may be, is, by virtue of this ordinance, declared a nuisance and will be proceeded against as such; and any person or persons found violating said ordinance shall be subject to pay a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars for each offense.

ARTICLE 6.—Be it ordained by the president and trustees aforesaid, that all shows, circuses, theaters, or exhibitions of that class, not having license under the seal of the president of the Board of Trustees of the town of Mount Morris are, by virtue of this

ordinance, strictly forbidden to exhibit such shows, theaters or performances, under a penalty of paying a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars for each offense.

ARTICLE 7.—Be it ordained by the president and trustees of the town of Mount Morris, that all riotous behavior, such as quarreling, fighting, or in any way disturbing the quiet and peace of the citizens of said town, is strictly forbidden. Any person or persons wantonly or presumptuously violating this ordinance shall pay a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars for each offense.

ARTICLE 8.—Be it ordained by the president and Board of Trustees of the town of Mount Morris, that horse-racing is hereby strictly forbidden and prohibited within the limits of the corporation: also that shooting at marks or firing of guns within the limits of this corporation is, by this ordinance, declared a nuisance, and any person or persons violating this ordinance shall pay a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars for each offense.

The record next contains six more ordinances, passed by the same board in a meeting held April 5, 1848. The first prohibited persons from suffering the carcasses of animals, owned or claimed by them, to remain unburied, and provided a penalty for the same. The second prohibited the indecent exhibition of animals in the village. The third provided that all male residents of the village, who had arrived at the age of twenty-one years, should labor three days on the roads, streets or alleys, as they might be directed by the supervisor of the same; and further provided that any one neglecting to do so when notified should be fined one dollar for each day's labor neglected, the same to be laid out on the streets where labor might be required. The fourth provided a penalty and method of prosecution of persons who should idle away their time, or act disorderly, or refuse to obey the supervisor under whose charge they were placed when working on the streets. The fifth specified the duties of the supervisor of the town. The sixth provided penalties for the wanton or malicious destruction of property within the corporation. At this same meeting the board passed the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That all trials shall be before the president of the board and conducted in the same manner as they are before justices of the peace, and all fees and costs proceeding therefrom shall be the same as if issued before a justice of the peace.

These two meetings of the board appear to have been the only ones. No corporation officers were appointed, and for several years nothing further was done, at least there are no records of any elections until January 1, 1856, when the following notice appeared:

ELECTION NOTICE.

There will be an election held at the house of William S. Blair in the town of Mount Morris, on the 15th day of January, 1856, for the purpose of electing five trustees of the town of Mount Morris, in Ogle county, Illinois.

MOUNT MORRIS, Jan. 1, 1856. F. G. PETRIE, CLERK.

Jacob Coffman, Frederick B. Brayton and D. A. Potter were appointed judges of this election, and had the following oath administered to them by James M. Webb, Justice of the Peace:

I, —— ——, do solemnly swear that I will perform the duties of judge according to law, and the best of my ability, and that I will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit and abuse in conducting the same.

As a result of this election, Jacob Coffman, David A. Potter, Elias Baker, William Schultz and Henry I. Little were the trustees elected. The whole number of votes cast was thirty-six. The poll-list was as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| William Little, | W. S. Blair, | William Hedges, | Simon H. Coffman, |
| Thomas Winston, | Ezra Toms, | Jonathan Mumma, | B. F. Shryock, |
| F. B. Brayton, | John Winders, | L. J. Brogunier, | Jesse Mayberry, |
| Henry Coggins, | Hiram Beard, | E. W. Little, | B. R. Thomas, |
| E. M. Cheney, | Robert O'Neal, | D. S. Coffman, | Jonathan Knodle, |
| Jacob Coffman, | D. A. Potter, | John F. Wallace, | Richard Brown, |
| J. D. Hays, | J. A. Knodle, | G. W. Harshman, | Andrew Newcomer, |
| J. M. Webb, | Thomas Clems, | B. Cooper, | C. R. Cheney, |
| Peter Knodle, Jr., | J. A. Noel, | Peyton Skinner, | A. H. Bailey. |

The newly-elected board met and organized January 19, 1856. D. A. Potter was elected president; William Schultz, clerk; Jacob Coffman, treasurer; and Peter Knodle, Jr., constable. The first business of importance transacted was concerning the taxes. By a unanimous vote the motion was carried that a tax be raised of fifty cents on the one hundred dollars of all the real estate within the limits of the corporation, according to the last assessment, for the purpose of making sidewalks and improvements of roads, streets and alleys within the corporation. The ordinances passed by the trustees in 1848 were re-enacted at this meeting. Peter Knodle, Jr., was appointed corporation tax-collector.

February 15, 1856, it was provided that sixteen blocks of sidewalk be built, and the same to be made three feet wide and of two-inch plank, the lots in front of walks to be taxed to pay three-fourths of cost of same.

February 22, 1856, a tax of fifty cents on the one hundred dollars was again levied on all real estate in the corporation, and the collector authorized to proceed to collect the general tax in ten days. March 7, Jacob Coffman was appointed street commissioner. April 11, the cost of building sixty-six feet of sidewalk was estimated at $13.34 by the trustees. June 13, all huckstering was forbidden in the seminary square and within the bounds of the streets surrounding the same; also the sale and firing of firecrackers or any kind of fireworks was prohibited within the limits of the corporation, except by permit.

March 28, 1857, fifty dollars was appropriated to build a pound. April 22, William Schultz was appointed assessor and his compensation fixed at $1.50 per day. William H. Coho was appointed constable and pound-master. May 1, Jonathan Mumma was appointed street commissioner with a compensation of $1.25 per day. Provision was also made for nine more blocks of sidewalk, the owners of land to pay three-fourths of the cost of building in front of their lots. May 15, Lewis Fletcher was appointed collector for the ensuing year, his compensation to be three per cent. A tax of five mills was levied on all taxable property.

March 1, 1858, the spring election took place in the house of W. S. Blair. Jacob Coffman, D. A. Potter and William Schultz were judges. New names appearing on the polling-list were those of Elias Williams, Nelson Potter, S. V. Miller, William Knodle, Jeremiah Stuff, Warren Little,

Eugene Mattison, George Davis, H. I. Little, B. G. Stevens, D. C. Wagner, A. Q. Allen, H. N. Ryan, Samuel Knodle, J. L. Nye, D. Routzhan, George W. Fouke, L. Fletcher, Reuben Wagner, Andrew Newcomer, F. A. McNeill, Michael Noel, H. A. Neff, L. Redfield, A. B. Pickard, William Schultz, H. H. George, Solomon Davis, L. H. Coffman, W. S. Pope, H. H. Newcomer, Charles Brook, E. Baker, and J. M. Webb. The trustees elected for the following year were Elias Baker, D. A. Potter, J. B. McCoy, William Schultz, and J. McClelland Miller.

The following, the latter part of the oath of office taken by the trustees at this time and for several years later, would sound rather queer, and, of course, would be entirely unnecessary at this time: "Also we do solemnly swear that we have not fought a duel, nor sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel, the probable issue of which might have been the death of either party, nor in any manner aided or assisted in such duel, nor been knowingly the bearer of any such challenge or acceptance since the adoption of the Constitution, and that we will not be so engaged or concerned, directly or indirectly, in or about such duel during our continuance in office. So help us God!" This part was dropped in 1871, and a briefer form adopted.

The board organized March 19, 1858, with D. A. Potter president and William Schultz clerk. J. B. McCoy was elected treasurer; H. N. Ryan, corporation attorney; J. S. Nye, constable and pound-master; J. McClelland Miller, street commissioner; William Schultz, corporation assessor. April 9, J. McClelland Miller was elected collector and Peter Knodle, Jr., assessor. April 14, an ordinance was passed, providing that many of the sidewalks of the town be widened from three to four feet. The tax levy for this year was forty cents on the one hundred dollars.

At the spring election of 1859, eighty-eight votes were cast, and Elias Baker, James B. McCoy, Henry Neff, Samuel Knodle, and Andrew Newcomer were elected trustees. At their first meeting, Elias Baker was chosen president; Samuel Knodle, clerk; and H. A. Neff, treasurer. Later, Samuel Knodle was elected collector and town constable, and Jonathan Knodle, street commissioner and pound-master. September 2, a tax of twenty-five cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of real and personal property was assessed.

March 5, 1860, at the annual election, fifty-three votes were cast, and J. B. McCoy, Andrew Newcomer, Samuel Knodle, Henry A. Neff, and James M. Webb were elected trustees. Andrew Newcomer was elected president; Samuel Knodle, clerk; and Henry A. Neff, treasurer. The board appointed Peter Knodle, Jr., and William L. Coho corporation constables, and Jacob Coffman, street commissioner. A tax levy of twenty cents on the one hundred dollars was made for the year.

The same trustees were re-elected in 1861, and the president, clerk, and treasurer remained the same. A tax rate of twenty cents was again levied for the year.

December 7, 1861, the following petition, signed by twenty-six citizens, was presented to the board:

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Village of Mount Morris:

*Gentlemen:*—In view of the fact that an ordinance of this village against the sale of beer, etc., is daily violated by certain shopkeepers, and of the fact that all good citizens desire the abatement of this nuisance:

Therefore, we, the undersigned, beg that your body will assemble and either call a public meeting of the citizens, to take some measures for the suppression of this traffic, or that you will yourselves, having knowledge of the fact named, take due course for the execution of the law, and in maintaining temperance and the honor of our community.

In compliance with the above, the board called a meeting of the citizens of the village, to devise some means to suppress the nuisance. The meeting was held in the Methodist church, but no record of the action taken by the assembly can be found.

The tax rate for 1862 was placed at ten cents on the one hundred dollars. The trustees for this year were the same as the year previous.

March 2, 1863, seventy-nine votes were recorded at the election. The trustees elected were all new men, as follows: James Clark, W. H. Atchison, H. I. Little, F. B. Brayton, A. Q. Allen. They organized with James Clark as president; A. Q. Allen, clerk; and William H. Atchison, treasurer. This board continued in office two years. July 25, 1864, Peter Funk was appointed pound-master and William Bull, street commissioner.

In 1865, votes polled, twenty-three. Trustees elected: James B. McCoy (president), A. Newcomer (clerk), Henry I. Little (treasurer), J. McClelland Miller, and F. B. Brayton. Appointments: J. McClelland Miller, street commissioner at $2.50 per day; Peter Knodle, constable; William Nichols, pound-master.

In 1866, twenty-nine votes were polled. Trustees elected: F. B. Brayton (president), Andrew Newcomer (clerk), Henry I. Little (treasurer), Martin T. Rohrer, and J. McClelland Miller. Appointments: J. McClelland Miller, street commissioner; Peter Knodle, constable; William Fish, pound-master. (The pound at this time, and a number of years previous, appeared to have been used a great deal for the imprisonment of hogs, many of which were allowed to run upon the streets. The trustees often had occasion to legislate upon this nuisance.)

In 1867, twenty-four votes were polled. The trustees elected were the same as the previous year. Appointments: Stephen H. Cheney, road commissioner: William Myers, assistant. A tax of fifty cents on the one hundred dollars was assessed for the year's expenses.

In 1868, forty-seven votes were polled. Trustees elected: Elias Williams, Samuel Knodle, Morris Gaffin, John Sprecher, Henry Middlekauff. There is no record that the members of this board ever took the oath of office or held a single meeting during their year of office. From appearances, the board of the year previous met in their stead.

In 1869, the board of 1867 was again elected in the spring election, in March. They chose F. B. Brayton president, M. T. Rohrer clerk, and W. I. Little treasurer.

In 1870, eighty-two votes were polled. Trustees elected: F. B. Brayton (president), M. T. Rohrer (clerk), W. I. Little (treasurer), A. Newcomer,

and Samuel Lookabaugh. Commencing at this election, the president was elected by direct vote instead of being selected by the trustees from among their own number, as was done heretofore. April 27, this board passed a stringent ordinance, "relating to the sale and traffic in wine, rum, gin, brandy, whisky, beer, cider, or other intoxicating liquors." For the ensuing year a rate of one dollar on each one hundred dollars' worth of property was levied.

In 1871, eighty-eight votes were polled. The board elected was as follows: Samuel Knodle, president; Ezra Toms (clerk), Upton Miller (treasurer), M. Stroh, S. H. Cheney. A tax of two dollars on each one hundred dollars was levied for the ensuing year. January 27, a considerable amount of new sidewalk was ordered built and the contract let to John T. Stewart at thirty-five cents per rod.

In 1872, seventy-six votes were polled. Board elected: Henry Sharer, president; Jonathan Knodle (clerk), Henry Clevidence (treasurer), Henry H. Newcomer, John Startzman. More sidewalks were laid this year to keep up with the rapid growth of the village. A tax of $500 was levied for corporation purposes for the ensuing year.

In 1873, fifty-seven votes were polled. Board elected: Martin T. Rohrer, president; Samuel Lookabaugh (clerk), Henry H. Clevidence (treasurer), Oliver H. Swingley, John French. S. H. Cheney was appointed street commissioner, and a tax of $700 was levied.

In 1874, seventy votes were polled. Board elected: Samuel Lookabaugh, president; Samuel Mumma (clerk), Henry Sharer, J. A. Knodle, H. H. Clevidence. Stephen H. Cheney was reappointed street commissioner, and a tax of $800 levied. On February 25, 1875, a petition was presented to this board, asking that an election be held to vote for or against village organization under the general law, enacted by the General Assembly of Illinois. The petition was granted and the election was set for March 27, 1875, with H. I. Little, Elijah Scott, and John Sharer, judges, and Peter Householder and A. W. Little, clerks of the election. The election resulted in favor of the proposed village organization, thirty-five votes being cast for the measure to one against.

In 1875, an election was called and held April 20, to elect six trustees, a village clerk and police magistrate, as required by the new organization. The result was as follows: Andrew Newcomer, I. H. Allen, H. I. Little, H. H. Clevidence, Peter Householder, J. M. Piper, trustees: village clerk and police magistrate, M. T. Rohrer. The vote polled was 110. O. H. Swingley was appointed treasurer, and Stephen H. Cheney, street commissioner. September 4, a tax levy of $500 was made. September 17, a considerable amount of new sidewalk was ordered built at a cost of thirty-four cents per rod.

In 1876, the village officers elected were as follows: John H. Swingley, H. H. Clevidence, Henry I. Little, Joseph M. Piper, J. A. Knodle, Charles Miles, trustees: Martin T. Rohrer, village clerk. Mr. Little was selected as president. A. W. Little received the appointment of street commissioner, and J. B. McCoy that of village constable. The annual appropriation bill

was passed July 29, providing a tax of $625. Later an additional appropriation of $100 was made, to build a calaboose.

The election held April 17, 1877, was as follows: For trustees, Henry Clevidence, John H. Swingley, Samuel Mumma, Benj. G. Stephens, Jacob A. Knodle, Thomas Williams; village clerk, John Sharer. B. G. Stephens was chosen president. O. H. Swingley was appointed treasurer; Peter Funk, street commissioner; and J. B. McCoy, village constable. The annual appropriation was $500.

In 1878, the election was held April 16, and resulted as follows: For trustees, H. L. Smith, T. C. Williams, H. H. Newcomer, L. J. Brogunier, H. H. Clevidence, W. S. Blair; village clerk, Arthur M. Newcomer. H. H. Clevidence was chosen president. Appointments: O. H. Swingley, village treasurer; Rigdon McCoy, street commissioner; Addison W. Neff, village constable. During this year the first licensed saloon was opened by W. H. Wallace, who paid $400 per annum for the privilege. Licenses were also granted to Pool Brothers and Solomon Davis to run billiard-halls. An appropriation of $400 was made for all purposes for the ensuing year. B. F. Tracy was appointed street commissioner September 9, to fill vacancy, for the remainder of the term.

In 1879, the election resulted as follows: Trustees, John W. Hitt, John H. Nye, Charles C. Miles, George W. Shank, Lewis Sprecher, J. F. Whitman; village clerk, Edward Mooney. John W. Hitt was elected president. Appointments for the year: O. H. Swingley, village treasurer; James B. McCoy, village constable; H. C. Clark, street commissioner. A levy of $500 was made to meet the year's expenses.

In 1880, the election resulted as follows: Trustees, Charles Newcomer, Peyton Skinner, George H. Riner, John French, Samuel Middour, H. H. Thomas; clerk, E. L. Mooney. License was made an issue at this election, and apparently a very strong sentiment had arisen against the saloons, as the result shows that 174 votes were cast against and not one for license. The board organized with Charles Newcomer as president. At this time the term of the trustees was changed from one to two years, three of the six to be elected every year. It being necessary to divide the board into two classes, one to serve one year and the other, two, lots were cast, which resulted as follows: Charles Newcomer, Peyton Skinner, and John French were to serve one year, and George H. Riner, Samuel Middour, and H. H. Thomas, two years. Appointments for the year: Village constable, A. W. Neff; treasurer, O. H. Swingley; village clerk, to fill vacancy caused by resignation of clerk-elect, Holly C. Clark; street commissioner, B. F. Tracy. Later H. L. Smith was chosen to succeed Mr. Neff as village constable. The sum of $1,075 was appropriated for the year's expenses.

In 1881, the three new trustees elected were Andrew Newcomer, George Sprecher, and John French. Holly Clark was elected village clerk and Andrew Newcomer was chosen president. Appointments: O. H. Swingley, treasurer; B. F. Tracy, street commissioner; Robert Crosby, marshal. Rigdon McCoy was later chosen to succeed Mr. Crosby as marshal. The annual appropriation was $800.

In 1882, the trustees elected were as follows: H. H. Clevidence, Luther J. Brogunier, Archibald S. McCoy; village clerk, W. H. Miller. H. H. Clevidence was chosen president. Appointments: David Rine, treasurer; B. F. Stouffer, marshal; Robert Crosby, street commissioner. A saloon and a billiard-hall were licensed by this board, the former paying a license of $500. The annual appropriation bill amounted to $1,000. Rigdon McCoy acted as marshal during the latter part of the fiscal year.

In 1883, the officers elected were as follows: Trustees, George Sprecher, David Newcomer, A. E. Canode; clerk, Samuel Knodle. H. H. Clevidence was chosen president. Appointments: David Rine, treasurer; Robert Crosby, street commissioner. No appropriation appears to have been made.

In 1884, the trustees elected were Isaac Rice, Benjamin F. Mumma, John Harmon: to fill vacancy, John Stewart. Samuel Knodle was elected village clerk, and Isaac Rice was chosen president. Appointments: A. M. Newcomer, treasurer; John E. Miller, street commissioner and marshal; George S. Cheney, assistant marshal. William C. Withers was appointed street commissioner, to fill vacancy, during the latter part of the year. Appropriation, $1,884. The records of this year show considerable activity on the part of the board in suppressing the illicit sale of liquor.

In 1885, trustees elected: David Newcomer, John T. Stewart, Jacob Good; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Isaac Rice was again selected president. Appointments: A. M. Newcomer, treasurer; William C. Withers, street commissioner and marshal. Appropriation, $1,000.

In 1886, trustees elected: William H. Jackson, Benj. F. Tracy, Peter Householder; clerk, Samuel Knodle. David Newcomer was selected president. Appointments: A. M. Newcomer, treasurer; William C. Withers, street commissioner; George S. Cheney, marshal and pound-master. The office of marshal was later transferred to Jacob Withers. In May of this year, the present village hall and lot were purchased of John Sprecher for $300. The calaboose was moved upon the newly-purchased lot, and the remainder used as a pound. In August, the board commenced the work of revising the ordinances, which were afterward published in pamphlet form. Jacob Good, an honored member of the board, died during this term, and resolutions of respect were passed and spread upon the minutes. The annual appropriation amounted to $1,500.

In 1887, trustees elected: Full term, David Newcomer, John T. Stewart, Samuel Rowe; to fill vacancy, Oliver H. Swingley; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Dr. Newcomer was again chosen president. Appointments: William C. Withers, street commissioner; A. M. Newcomer, treasurer. Annual appropriation, $1,000.

In 1888, the election resulted as follows: For president, Charles Newcomer; trustees, Daniel N. Wingert, Joseph M. Piper, Charles Sharer; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Appointments: Benjamin F. Tracy, street commissioner and marshal; A. M. Newcomer, treasurer. Kerosene lamps for lighting the streets were purchased in August and placed on the principal corners of the town. The appropriation for the fiscal year amounted to $1,000.

In 1889, the election resulted as follows: For president, Charles Newcomer; trustees, George Sprecher, John T. Stewart, George B. McCosh; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Appointments: A. M. Newcomer, treasurer; Samuel Rowe, marshal and street commissioner. In July of this year, three large cisterns, to provide water in case of fire, were built, each cistern having a capacity of 150 barrels. They have long since been filled up. A fire company of seven persons was formed at this time. The annual appropriation was $1,000.

In 1890, the election resulted as follows: For president, Charles Newcomer; trustees, A. E. Canode, Clinton E. Price, Henry H. Newcomer; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Appointments: William H. Miller, treasurer; Samuel Rowe, marshal and street commissioner. Annual appropriation, $1,000.

In 1891, result of election: For president, Charles Newcomer; trustees, George B. McCosh, Henry L. Smith, Jacob Craley; clerk, Samuel Knodle. The question whether a village tax of one mill should be levied for a public library was an issue at this election. Seventy-one votes were cast in favor of, and one against, the proposition. William Miller and Samuel Rowe were reappointed treasurer and marshal and street commissioner respectively. The annual appropriation was $1,500.

In 1892, result of election: For president, Charles Newcomer; trustees, Samuel P. Mumma, A. M. Newcomer, Daniel B. Keedy; clerk, Samuel Knodle. William Miller was again appointed treasurer and Samuel Rowe, street commissioner and marshal. The annual appropriation was $1,650.

In 1893, result of election: For president, W. H. Jackson; trustees, Philip T. Sprecher, Charles H. Sharer, C. H. Mishler; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Officers of the year previous were reappointed. The street leading to the depot, known as "Midway," was opened and macadamized. Annual appropriation, $1,850.

In 1894, result of election: For president, W. W. Hanes; trustees, Clinton E. Price, Henry L. Smith, Benj. Rine; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Officers of the previous year were reappointed. During the summer the first five blocks (5,728 square feet) of tar-concrete walk were constructed by J. F. Wisner, of Rockford. The annual appropriation bill amounted to $2,500. At the meeting of the board on February 4, 1895, the following petition, signed by N. E. Buser, Charles Newcomer, Joseph Amick, L. A. Plate, R. E. Arnold, Simon E. Yundt, and 168 others, was submitted for their consideration:

To the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Mount Morris:

*Gentlemen:*—The undersigned, citizens and tax-payers of Mount Morris, feeling that the time has arrived when the village should have a system of water-works, herewith submit this petition, and respectfully ask your honorable body to take the legal preliminary measures necessary to submit the question of water-works to the voters of the village at the coming spring election,—said water-works not to exceed $15,000, and to be so constructed as to furnish ample protection from fire to the lumber yard of Clark & Wingert, the elevators, and Chain-Stay Fence factory, on the north side; P. T. Sprecher, A. W. Brayton, and John Rice, on the east side; the creamery, Old Folks' Home, and public school building, on the south side; Mr. Lutz and John French, on the west side; and all property included within the above limits.

The ordinance prohibiting the pasturing of cattle on the streets was ordered to be strictly enforced, and the practice was effectually done away with.

In 1895, result of election: For president, W. W. Hanes; trustees, full terms, John H. Rice, Philip T. Sprecher, W. A. Newcomer; to fill vacancy, Ira W. Wingert; clerk, Samuel Knodle. The question whether a water-works system should be put in was voted upon, 96 votes being cast in favor of, and 69 in opposition to the measure. The officers of the year previous were reappointed. May 6, it was ordered that bonds to the amount of $8,000 be issued by the village to apply on the construction of water-works. It was provided that these bonds be eight in number, and each be for $1,000, one bond payable each year in ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, and seventeen years respectively from the date of issue, said bonds to bear interest until paid at the rate of five per cent from the date of issue (July 1, 1895). The bonds secured purchasers and are now in the hands of Farson, Leach & Co., of Chicago. May 14, a special meeting of the board was held to consider the kind of water-works that would be suitable. A number of authorities were consulted, and a committee, appointed with power to let the contract for the system, visited Amboy, and reported in favor of a steel tower. June 27, the annual appropriation ordinance was passed, providing $400 for interest on water-works bonds, $1,500 for increase of water system, and $1,400 for other purposes, making a total of $3,300, the largest sum ever appropriated for village purposes, previous to that time. July 24, the contract for drilling the artesian well was let to J. P. Miller & Co., of Chicago, and August 8, the contract for the tower, power-house, and equipment complete, was let to the United States Wind, Engine and Pump Co., of Batavia, for $6,163. April 6, 1896, the following ordinance was passed:

Be it ordained by the president and Board of Trustees of the village of Mount Morris, that all sidewalk on the principal streets hereafter to be constructed shall be laid of tar-concrete, stone, brick, or artificial stone, excepting the sidewalk in front of stores and other business houses on Wesley avenue and other business streets, where it may be impracticable or undesirable to lay walks with other material than planks or boards.

In 1896, result of election: For president, W. W. Hanes; trustees, Ira W. Wingert, Edward Slater, Benj. Rine; clerk, Samuel Knodle. William H. Miller was again appointed village treasurer and Samuel Rowe, marshal and street commissioner. In July, complete settlement was made with the U. S. W., E. and P. Co. for the water-works system, the amount of the bill being $6,435.94. The annual appropriation bill amounted to $3,300, $400 being set aside for interest on bonds, $1,500 for increase of water-works system, and the balance for sidewalks, streets, and contingences.

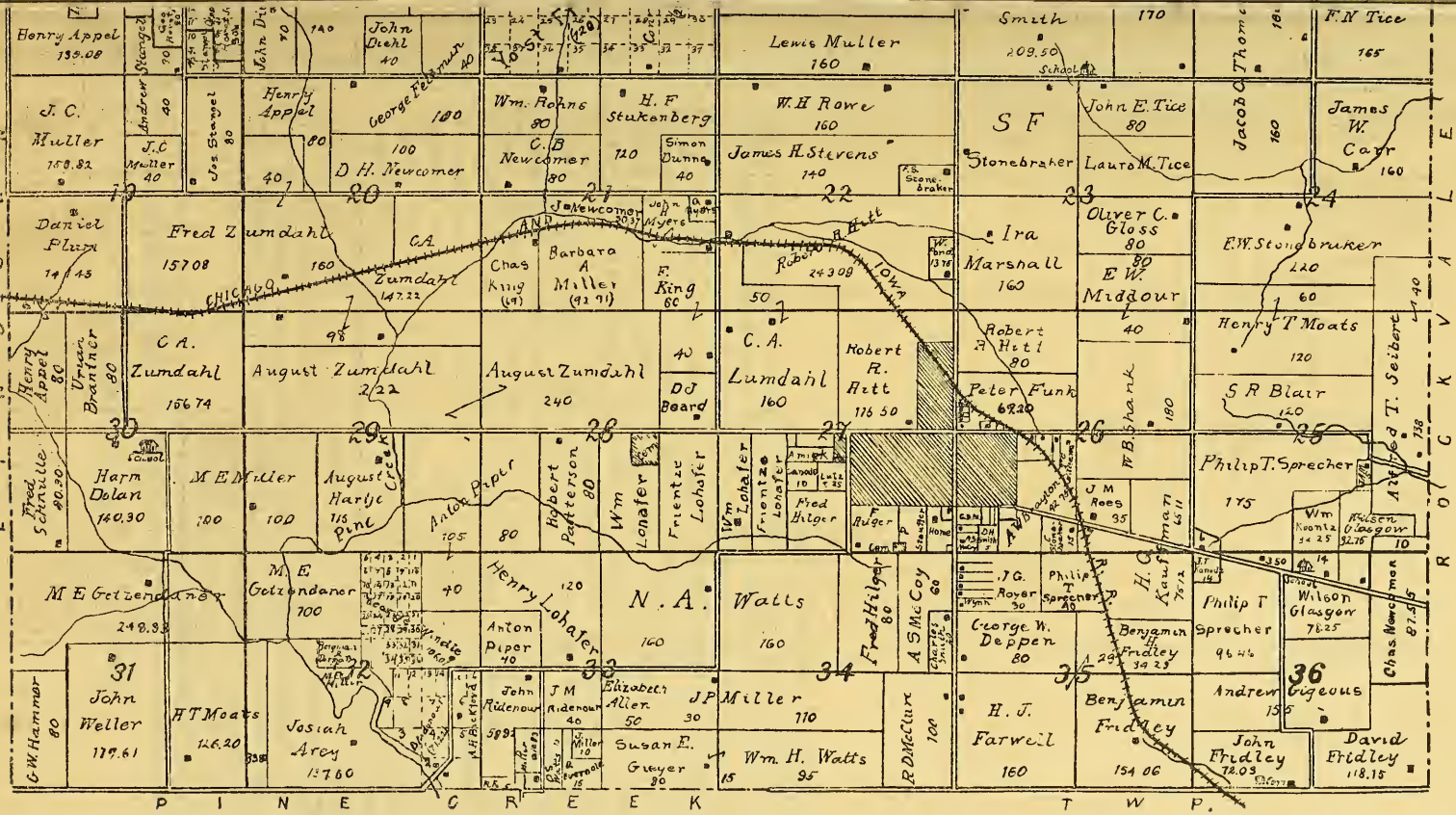
In 1897, result of election: For president, A. W. Brayton; trustees, Philip T. Sprecher, H. E. Newcomer, W. A. Newcomer; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Appointments: William H. Miller, treasurer; Samuel Rowe, marshal and street commissioner; C. H. Whitman, fire marshal. During the spring of this year, 2,169 lineal feet of tar-concrete walk was laid,

aggregating about seven blocks, in addition to the wide walk leading to the depot. The annual appropriation provided $3,300, of which $1,200 was designed for increasing the water-works system.

In 1898, result of election: For president, A. W. Brayton; trustees, A. E. Clevidence, Benj. Rine, Ira W. Wingert; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Appointments: William H. Miller, treasurer; Samuel Rowe, marshal; C. H. Whitman, fire marshal; George Lampert, street commissioner. In April, 7,561½ lineal feet of tar-concrete walk was laid. Appropriation, $3,300, of which amount $900 was for increase of water system and $700 for walks.

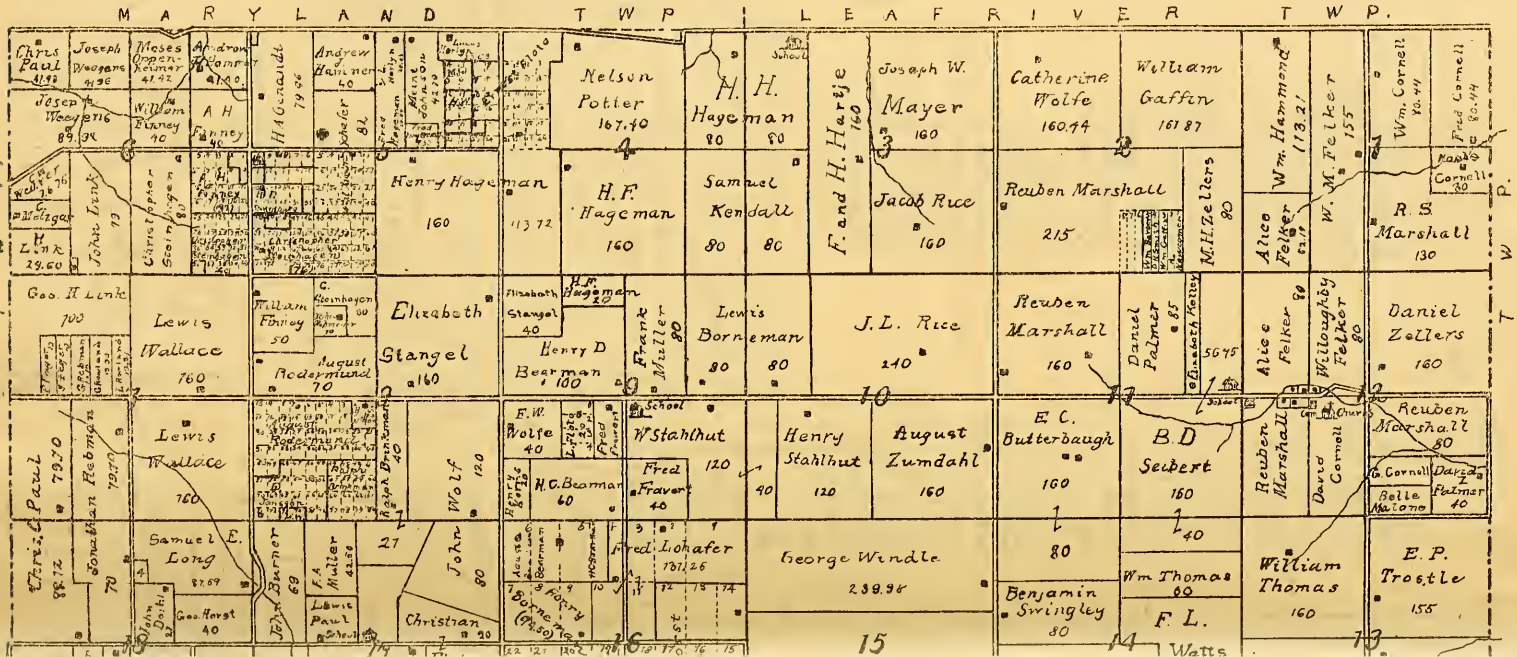
In 1899, the election resulted as follows: For president, W. W. Hanes; trustees, H. E. Newcomer, W. A. Newcomer, Philip T. Sprecher; clerk, Samuel Knodle. Appointments, William H. Miller, treasurer; Samuel Rowe, marshal; George Lampert, street commissioner. Appropriation, $3,300. No provision was made for the extension of the water-mains, an extra large amount being set aside for sidewalks. In July of this year, the street commissioner purchased an improved road-grader, with which much good work has been done on unmacadamized streets. Nearly 3,000 lineal feet of tar-concrete walk was laid during the year.

In 1900, the election resulted as follows: For president, W. W. Hanes; trustees, Ira W. Wingert, Benj. Rine, William Peacock; clerk, B. E. Avey. Appointments, Roy Householder, treasurer; Samuel Rowe, manager of pumping-station; William Keedy, marshal and street commissioner. The annual appropriation bill, passed June 7, again provided $3,300 for current expenses during the fiscal year. In August, William Keedy resigned, and William Withers was appointed street commissioner, while the duties of marshal were again assumed by Samuel Rowe.


Henry Appel 139.08
John Diehl 40
Lewis Muller 160
Smith 209.50
F.N Tice 165
J. C. Muller 158.82
Andrew Stangel 40
J.C Muller 40
Jos Stangel 80
Henry Appel 80
George Fetzmann 100
D H. Newcomer 100
Wm. Rohns 80
C.B Newcomer 80
H. F Stukenberg 120
Simon Dunne 40
W.H Rowe 160
James H. Stevens 140
S F Stonebraker
John E. Tice 80
Laura M. Tice
Jacob C. Thome 160
James W. Carr 160
Daniel Plum 14 45
Fred Zumdahl 157.08
160
C.A. Zumdahl 147.22
J. Newcomer 30.37
John Myers 6
Barbara A Miller (92.91)
Chas King (49)
F. King 60
Robert Hitt 243.09
Ira Marshall 160
Oliver C. Gloss 80
E W. Middour 80
E.W. Stonebraker 220
60
Henry Appel 80
Urian Brantner 80
C.A. Zumdahl 156.74
August Zumdahl 2.22
August Zumdahl 240
40
DJ Beard
C.A. Lumdahl 160
Robert R. Hitt 176.50
Robert A Hitl 80
Peter Funk 69.20
W B. Shank 180
Henry T Moats 120
S R Blair 120
Fred Schnelle 80.50
Harm Dolan 140.30
M E Miller 100
100
August Harlje 115
Anton Piper 105
80
Robert Patterson 80
Wm Lonafer
Frientze Lohafer
Wm Lohafer
Frientze Lohafer
Fred Hilger
Ruger
J M Rees 95
Philip T. Sprecher 175
Wm Koontz 34.25
Nelsen Glasgow 92.75
10
M E Getzendaner 248.93
M E Getzendaner 100
40
Henry Lohafer 120
Anton Piper 40
N. A. 160
Watts 160
Fred Hilger 80
A S McCoy 60
J.G. Royer 50
Philip T Sprecher 40
H. G. Kaufman 76.12
Philip T Sprecher 96.46
Wilson Glasgow 78.25
Chas. Newcomer 87.95
George W. Deppen 80
Benjamin H Fridley 39.25
31
John Weller 179.61
H T Moats 146.20
Josiah Arey 137.60
John Ridenour 59.93
J M Ridenour 40
Elizabeth Allen 50
30
J P Miller 110
Susan E. Guyer 80
Wm. H. Watts 95
R D McClure 100
H. J. Farwell 160
Benjamin Fridley 154.06
36
Andrew Gigeous 155
John Fridley 72.03
David Fridley 118.15
G W Hammer 80
PINE CREEK TWP.
LINCOLN
ROCKVALLEY

# Mount Morris Township

Township 24 North Range IX East of the 4th Principal Meridian



# CHAPTER IV.

## INCORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP.

The township of Mount Morris was organized in the year 1850, under the Township Organization Law, passed by the State Legislature in February of the year previous. The first town meeting was held on the second day of April, 1850, in the chapel of the Rock River Seminary, for the purpose of choosing town officers. Of this meeting D. J. Pinckney was moderator and Benj. G. Stephens, clerk. A resolution was passed to divide the township into six road districts, and an overseer of highways was appointed for each district. The election of town officers, as are required by law to be elected by ballot, resulted as follows: For supervisor, James B. McCoy; town clerk, A. Q. Allen; assessor, M. Garman; collector, Jonathan Knodle, Sr.; highway commissioners, Abram Thomas, Jacob Myers, Henry Hiestand; constables, Peter Knodle, Henry Little; justices of the peace, James M. Webb, Henry Little; overseer of the poor, Benj. G. Stephens.

The voters at this first township election numbered 107, many of whose names are probably forgotten by the present citizens of Mount Morris. The list will be of interest to many, and is as follows:

David Gloss,
Samuel S. Miller,
David Beard,
John Beard,
Abraham Thomas,
John Harmon, Jr.,
D. J. Pinckney,
Peter Glasgow,
Andrew Rowland,
James D. Hays,
Joseph Muller,
William Grubb,
Jacob Beard,
Walter McNutt,
Jonathan Knodle, Sr.,
John Palmer,
Charles M. Haller,
Washington Phelps,
Samuel Garber,
Samuel Webb,
Jacob Philips,
Henry Coffman,
James Mitten,
Thomas Bryant,
John Rice,
George Fouke,
John Miller,
Henry Little,
Michael Garman, Jr.,
Martin Rodermel,
George Brayton,
Daniel Sprecher,
Michael Garman, Sr.,
William Little,
Jacob Coffman,
Salathiel Highbarger,
Jacob Rice, Jr.,
Jacob Meyers,
O. N. Adams,
Henry Clarke,
C. C. Olds,
Jacob Hoffman,
John Wallace,
Adam Patterson,
John Ankney,
John Lauderbaugh,
David Butterbaugh,
Andrew Newcomer,
Jacob Hykas,
Henry Agard,
Joel R. Carll,
William Falkler,
James M. Webb,
Talbot C. Ankney,
C. Misner,
John Hammer,
F. G. Petrie,
John Schultz,
Daniel Arnold,
William Schultz,
Stephen H. Cheney,
Peter Knodle,
Otho Wallace,
Henry Newcomer,
Henry Neff,
Enoch Wood,
Elias Baker,
Richard McClain,
Samuel Foutz,
Henry Thomas,
George Avey,
Thomas Winn,
Benj. Hedrick,
Aaron Billig,
F. B. Brayton,
Matthew Ayers,
J. J. Beatty,
N. J. Stroh,
Benj. G. Stephens,
J. B. McCoy,
L. S. Carll,
Stephen Adams,
W. S. Blair,
William Hedges,

Matthew Blair.
Samuel McMillen.
Lawrence Wallace,
James Fouke.
Peter Funk,
Jonathan Knodle, Jr.,
S. M. Fellows.
Jacob A. Knodle.
Alexander Hedrick,
N. J. Judson,
Cooper Crews.
Peter Knodle, Sr.,
John F. Grosh.
Isaac Rice.
Jonathan Meyers,
Samuel Thomas.
Philip Sprecher.
Samuel Swingley,
A. Q. Allen,
John Reitzell.
A. C. Marston.
William Stephens,
Jonas Shafstall.

From the time of this first town meeting, held in April 1850, the meetings have been continued regularly in that month each year, being known as "Annual Town Meetings." The principal business to come before these meetings is the election, by ballot, of township officers, the appointment of overseers of highways of the several road districts into which the township is divided, the appropriation of funds to defray the expenses of the township, and the passage of a few laws found necessary from year to year for the welfare of the general public.

The poll-list of the first election has already been given. The poll-list of 1852 is interesting from the fact that in it are found the names of Hon. Shelby M. Cullom and General John A. Rawlins, who were evidently students at the seminary at that time. The poll-list of 1860 is an exceptionally large one, containing the names of 235 voters. A perusal of the list disclosed the fact that the majority of these old residents are either dead or greatly advanced in years. Their names inserted here will prove of interest:

S. Vinton Miller.
Isaac H. Allen,
A. Q. Allen,
D. C. Morgan,
Andrew Newcomer,
Samuel Rennie,
Daniel Sprecher,
Solomon Davis.
G. W. Marshall.
Henry S. Jones,
G. W. Gibbs.
Daniel E. Thompson.
John McClelland Miller,
William Rine,
William H. Bull.
Jacob A. Knodle,
Isaac Prichard.
W. H. Gibbs,
Henry Middlekauff,
Henry Sharer,
Carlton R. Cheney.
Enoch J. Coffman.
Philip Sprecher,
Alfred M. Doward,
John A. Noel,
Jacob Coffman,
Joseph S. Nye,
Sidney Redfield.
William J. Fletcher.
Henry Butterbaugh,
Joseph N. Knodle,
Elijah Lott,
Samuel Knodle.
Jacob Stouffer.
John Sharer.
Peter Knodle, Sr.,
Theodore Higley,
J. A. Ormsbee,
David Rine,
Jacob Phillips.
Jeremiah Lambert.
William S. Blair,
Samuel Domer.
H. I. Little,
Robert Hitt,
Lyman S. Carll,
Edwin Cheney,
Samuel Foutz,
William Fish,
Peyton Skinner.
James D. Hays.
James M. Webb,
George Knodle,
William Knodle,
Peter Knodle, Jr.,
James H. Fouke,
A. Pope.
Bolivar Cooper,
Amos Wiley,
Horace Hansom,
John Dunton.
Frederick Lohafer.
Jonathan Knodle,
James B. McCoy.
Jacob Sharer.
William T. Cooper.
John Newton,
Jacob Corell.
Rodney Burnett,
John T. Long.
John D. Welty,
D. B. Morgan.
William Newcomer,
Edward Davis.
William J. Gibbs.
J. R. Holsinger,
Cyrus Alden.
William S. Pope.
Milton McAnley,
Abram Felker,
David Felker,
John F. Miller,
Adam Patterson,
Jonathan Hill,
Thomas Barker,
Elijah Glasgow,
F. A. McNeill,

Henry Thompson.
B. K. Shryock.
Isaac Fry.
Henry Newcomer.
Michael Noel.
Walter B. McCoy.
William Nichols.
John Sprecher.
Samuel Householder.
John Stover.
William L. Coho.
Christian Rockenbaugh.
Calvin Potter.
George Sprecher.
Jacob J. Mace.
Michael Garman, Jr.
August Steinmeyer.
Jacob Mace.
Henry Thomas.
Ernest Floto.
James Potter.
Henry Stover.
Joseph Watermeyer.
A. Billig.
Jacob Hilger.
Benjamin Rowe.
John Page.
John Hamping.
Martin T. Rohrer.
Jacob Mitchell.
Joseph Muller.
Henry A. Neff.
David A. Potter.
Henry F. Newcomer.
Emanuel Stover.
John Gloss.
D. C. Routzhan.
Jonas Shafstall.
Jacob Cross.
John Felker.
David Turney.
Richard Shaw.
Daniel Shaw.
N. J. Stroh.
Alexander Hedrick.
Abram Weaver.
F. W. Stonebraker.
Abram Thomas.
David Gloss.
S. O. Pickard.
Daniel Stover.
Leonard Thompson.
Caleb Marshall.
George Smith.
Michael Brantner.
Isaac Newcomer.
D. H. Butterbaugh.
H. J. Farwell.
J. Martin Davis.
Isaac Rice.
Eli Thompson.
John W. Hitt.
John F. Wallace.
Joel Newcomer.
Andrew F. Long.
James Fleming.
John Davis.
Daniel Zellers.
Benj. Swingley.
James Wallace.
William Spero.
William H. Atchison.
Richard Allison.
Reuben Marshall.
John W. Hammer.
Otho Wallace.
John S. Spero.
Benj. Hammer.
George W. Fouke.
F. B. Brayton.
Henry Baker.
Ezra Thomas.
Stephen H. Cheney.
David Cornell.
Thomas Coggins.
Stephen Smith.
Myron Phillips.
John H. Nye.
William Hedges.
Carlos Meddler.
Jonathan Myers.
Pratt German.
Peter Glasgow.
Lewis H. Routzhan.
William Grubb.
Walter McNutt.
John Jones.
Christian Tockey.
Peter Funk.
A. W. McMullen.
Willard Pond.
Elias Williams.
Samuel Thomas.
Joel R. Carll.
Thomas Winston.
Frank Highbarger.
C. Hills.
Martin Miller.
Joshua Slifer.
Daniel Knodle.
Andrew Sharp.
Samuel Long.
B. G. Stephens.
David Nikirk.
John L. Jones.
John Startzman.
Solomon Nally.
W. J. Fouke.
George Eavey.
D. J. Pinckney.
J. S. Shook.
Elias J. Ohr.
A. Warren Little.
Jacob Miles.
Henry Shilling.
Muhlenburg Stroh.
Upton Miller.
Harrison Sage.
Henry Johnson.
Benjamin Seibert.
John Martin.
Nelson J. Potter.
Andrew Hitt.
Chris. Middlekauff.
Emery Hitt.
Franklin Black.
William Little.
Emanuel Toms.
Joseph Hitt.
J. A. McKean.
H. E. Stout.
F. M. Clark.
J. H. McKean.
William H. Harlow.
G. B. Charles.
H. B. Cartwright.
J. M. Piper.
M. V. Wood.

October 29, 1864, a special town meeting was held, and the question voted upon whether the town should or should not levy a tax sufficient to pay the expenses incurred in furnishing eleven volunteers for the service of the United States, in accordance with the call of the President for more troops, issued a short time previous. There were 151 votes polled, 134 in favor of the tax and 17 against.

## Table of Township Officers

Showing the different incumbents of the respective offices of Supervisor, Town Clerk, Assessor, and Collector, during the twenty-five years beginning with 1850 and ending with 1874.

| Year. | Supervisor. | Town Clerk. | Assessor. | Collector. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1850... | James B. McCoy, | A. Q. Allen, | M. Garman, | Jonathan Knodle, |
| 1851... | Benjamin T. Hedrick, | John F. Grosh, | William Schultz, | " " |
| 1852... | Andrew Newcomer, | Lyman S. Carll, | Henry Hiestand, | " " |
| 1853... | Joel R. Carll, | " " | Otho Wallace, | Alexander Hedrick, |
| 1854... | *Samuel Garber, | William Schultz, | Samuel Long, | " " |
| 1855... | Elias Baker, | B. K. Shryock, | A. Q. Allen, | Peter Knodle, |
| 1856... | " " | William Schultz, | George W. Phelps, | " " |
| 1857... | " " | A. Q. Allen, | Daniel Sprecher, | " " |
| 1858... | Daniel Sprecher, | Lyman Coffman, | Martin T. Rohrer, | " " |
| 1859... | Francis A. McNeill, | Samuel Knodle, | Elijah Lott, | " " |
| 1860... | " " | " " | James M. Webb, | " " |
| 1861... | John W. Hitt, | George W. Marshall, | Michael Garman, | John McC. Miller, |
| 1862... | B. T. Hedrick, | " " | " " | Peter Knodle, |
| 1863... | " " | James M. Webb, | Isaac Newcomer, | " " |
| 1864... | " " | " " | Andrew Newcomer, | James M. Webb, |
| 1865... | " " | Martin T. Rohrer, | " " | Peter Knodle, |
| 1866... | " " | " " | A. Q. Allen, | " " |
| 1867... | " " | " " | James M. Webb, | " " |
| 1868... | " " | " " | William Falkler, | John McC. Miller, |
| 1869... | John W. Hitt, | Frederick B. Brayton, | " " | Peyton Skinner, |
| 1870... | Charles Newcomer, | " " | Elijah Lott, | " " |
| 1871... | " " | H. H. Clevidence, | Abraham Thomas, | " " |
| 1872... | " " | J. M. Piper, | Francis W. Stonebraker, | Henry H. Newcomer, |
| 1873... | John W. Hitt, | H. H. Clevidence, | " " | George W. Fouke, |
| 1874... | " " | " " | " " | John Sharer, |

*Samuel Garber was a Dunkard preacher, and it being against the rules of his church for members to hold civil office, he refused to serve. Henry Hiestand was appointed in his place.

## Table of Township Officers—Continued

Showing the different incumbents of the respective offices of Supervisor, Town Clerk, Assessor, and Collector, during the twenty-six years beginning with 1875 and ending with 1900.

| YEAR. | SUPERVISOR. | TOWN CLERK. | ASSESSOR. | COLLECTOR. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1875... | John W. Hitt, | H. H. Clevidence, | Francis W. Stonebraker, | Muhlenburg Stroh, |
| 1876... | " " | " " | Martin T. Rohrer, | Samuel Knodle, |
| 1877... | " " | " " | Charles Smith, | Samuel Lookabaugh, |
| 1878... | " " | William H. Miller, | Abraham Thomas, | Joseph Guynn, |
| 1879... | M. E. Getzendaner, | Lewis Sprecher, | " " | " " |
| 1880... | " " | John H. Swingley, | " " | A. M. Newcomer. |
| 1881... | " " | William H. Miller, | Charles Smith, | " " |
| 1882... | " " | " " | " " | Jonathan Knodle, |
| 1883... | " " | " " | " " | Benjamin Rine, |
| 1884... | " " | " " | " " | " " |
| 1885... | " " | " " | William H. McCoy, | Charles V. Davis. |
| 1886... | " " | " " | Charles H. Allen, | Leslie S. Hill, |
| 1887... | " " | " " | " " | " " |
| 1888... | " " | H. H. Clevidence, | " " | James D. Hays, |
| 1889... | R. S. Marshall. | John H. Miller. | " " | Ira Wingert, |
| 1890... | H. H. Clevidence, | Henry Lohafer, | Alfred C. Middlekauff, | Henry L. Smith, |
| 1891... | " " | Philip T. Sprecher, | Charles H. Allen, | William H. Miller, |
| *1892... | | Daniel B. Keedy, | | |
| †1893... | William Stahlhut, | Jonathan Hiestand, | Charles H. Allen, | Daniel B. Keedy, |
| 1894... | " " | William H. Miller, | " " | C. C. Gimple, |
| 1895... | " " | " " | " " | Vance C. Miller, |
| 1896... | " " | " " | " " | C. C. Gimple, |
| 1897... | George V. Farwell, | " " | " " | S. C. Kinsey, |
| 1898... | " " | " " | " " | S. J. Hess. |
| 1899... | " " | " " | " " | " " |
| 1900... | " " | " " | S. C. Kinsey, | " " |

*No election was held this year, owing to the railroad trouble. Officers were appointed, or those of 1891 held over.
†Beginning with this year the term of office of supervisor was changed from one to two years.

## Highway Commissioners of the Township

| YEAR. | NAME. | YEAR. | NAME. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1850,.. | Abram Thomas, Jacob Myers, | 1870,.. | William Lohafer |
| | Henry Hiestand, | 1871,.. | Charles Smith. |
| 1851,.. | Joel R. Carll, Jacob Turney | 1872,.. | Reuben Marshall. |
| | Henry Sharer | 1873,.. | William Lohafer. |
| 1852,.. | Joel R. Carl, Jacob Myers, | 1874,.. | Charles Smith, |
| | Abram Thomas, | 1875,.. | W. S. Blake. |
| 1853,.. | George Swingley, | 1876,.. | R. S. Marshall. |
| | Henry Hiestand, Lyman S. Carll, | 1877,.. | Jonathan Shafstal, |
| 1854,.. | A. Q. Allen, Jacob Coffman | 1878,.. | |
| | William Falkler. | 1879,.. | R. S. Marshall. |
| 1855,.. | Jacob Coffman, A. Q. Allen, | 1880,.. | Jacob G. Miller, |
| | H. J. Farwell. | 1881,.. | Jonathan Shafstal. |
| 1856,.. | Abram Thomas, Jacob Coffman, | 1882,.. | " " |
| | Samuel Long. | 1883,.. | Jacob G. Miller, |
| 1857,.. | Jacob Coffman, J. B. McCoy, | 1884,.. | Jonathan Shafstal. |
| | L. S. Carll. | 1885,.. | R. S. Marshall. |
| 1858,.. | Joel R. Carll, Jacob Coffman, | 1886,.. | Henry Stahlhut. |
| | Michael Stonebraker. | 1887,.. | George V. Farwell. |
| 1859,.. | William Rine, Joel R. Carll, | 1888,.. | R. S. Marshall. |
| | Jacob Coffman. | 1889,.. | Henry Stahlhut. |
| 1860,.. | Same as year previous. | 1890,.. | Christian Zumdahl. |
| 1861,.. | William Rine, Joel R. Carll, | 1891,.. | R. S. Marshall, |
| | B. F. Hedrick, | *1892,.. | |
| 1862,.. | William Rine. | 1893,.. | George V. Farwell. |
| 1863,.. | Martin T. Rohrer, | 1894,.. | R. S. Marshall, |
| 1864,.. | Jacob Phillips, | 1895,.. | Frank Muller. |
| 1865,.. | H. J. Farwell. | 1896,.. | George V. Farwell, |
| 1866,.. | Reuben Marshall. | 1897,.. | R. S. Marshall. |
| 1867,.. | Jacob Phillips, | 1898,.. | Edward Potter. |
| 1868,.. | H. J. Farwell. | 1899,.. | W. E. McCready. |
| 1869,.. | Reuben Marshall, | 1900,.. | Ira W. Marshall, |

*No election.

## Justices of the Peace of the Township

| YEAR. | NAME. | YEAR. | NAME. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1850,.. | James M. Webb, | 1874,.. | William Rine. |
| | Henry Little, | 1875,.. | Andrew Newcomer. |
| 1854,.. | Benjamin T. Hedrick, | 1877,.. | Peyton Skinner, |
| | James M. Webb, | | John Weller. |
| 1858,.. | James M. Webb, | 1881,.. | Andrew Newcomer, |
| | Charles M. Haller, | | A. Q. Allen, |
| 1860,.. | Joel R. Carll, | 1885,.. | John Weller, |
| 1862,.. | James M. Webb, | | Daniel Fager, |
| | Andrew Newcomer, | 1889,.. | John Weller, |
| 1866,.. | James M. Webb, | | R. D. McClure, |
| | Andrew Newcomer, | 1893,.. | R. D. McClure, |
| 1870,.. | Elijah Lott, | | *H. G. Kauffman, |
| | Andrew Newcomer, | 1897,.. | R. D. McClure, |
| 1871,.. | Elijah Lott, | | Jonathan Hiestand, |
| | Daniel Thomas, | | |

*Kauffman failed to qualify, and A. M. Newcomer was elected next spring.

## Constables of the Township

Note.—Judging from the records, the office of constable was filled in a very erratic manner, some years there being two officers elected; some years, only one, and frequently, none at all. A blank after a year signifies that the office was not supplied by election. The term of service also varied, being of different lengths until 1881, when it was fixed at four years.

| Year. | Name. | Year. | Name. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1850... | Peter Knodle, | 1867... | William Bull, |
| | Henry Little, | | Peter Knodle, |
| 1851... | Peter Knodle, | 1868... | |
| | James Fouke, | 1869... | |
| 1852... | | 1870... | |
| 1853... | | 1871... | John Black, |
| 1854... | | | A. M. Doward, |
| 1855... | Peter Knodle, | 1873... | Franklin W. Black, |
| | Alex. A. Cook, | | William Bull, |
| 1856... | | 1876... | A. W. Little, |
| 1857... | Lewis Fletcher, | 1877... | J. B. McCoy, |
| | William L. Coho, | | Samuel Mumma, |
| 1858... | | 1880... | James B. McCoy, |
| 1859... | Peter Knodle, | 1881... | Henry L. Smith, |
| | William L. Coho, | | Benj. F. Tracy, |
| 1860... | | 1885... | Charles Smith, |
| 1861... | William Bull, | | Daniel B. Keedy, |
| 1862... | Peter Knodle, | 1889... | Charles Smith, |
| 1863... | William Bull, | | William Domer, |
| | Peter Knodle, | 1893... | Charles Rubsamen, |
| 1864... | | | William H. Keedy, |
| 1865... | | 1897... | George H. Myers, |
| 1866... | William Bull, | | Fred. Long, |
| | Peter Knodle, | | |

## School Trustees of the Township

From 1870, the year of the establishment of the office, up to the present time.

| Year. | Name. | Year. | Name. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1870... | Henry Sharer, | 1887... | Jacob O. Thomas, |
| 1871... | John E. McCoy, | | †Wiliam Stahlhut, |
| 1872... | Isaac Rice, | 1888... | W. S. Blake, |
| 1873... | Henry Sharer, | 1889... | William Stahlhut, |
| 1874... | John E. McCoy, | 1890... | Josiah Avey, |
| 1875... | Henry T. Moats, | 1891... | Jacob O. Thomas, |
| *1876... | | ‡1892... | |
| 1877... | John E. McCoy, | 1893... | Andrew Gigous, |
| 1878... | Levi Kerns, | | †W. A. Newcomer, |
| 1879... | Henry T. Moats, | 1894... | Jacob O. Thomas, |
| 1880... | John E. McCoy, | | †Arthur M. Newcomer, |
| 1881... | Levi Kerns | 1895... | C. A. Zumdahl, |
| 1882... | John Weller, | 1896... | Andrew Gigous, |
| 1883... | John E. McCoy, | 1897... | Oliver Gloss, |
| 1884... | Levi Kerns, | 1898... | W. A. Newcomer, |
| 1885... | W. S. Blake, | 1899... | Andrew Gigous, |
| 1886... | John E. Tice, | 1900... | William Stahlhut, |

*No one elected. †To fill vacancy. ‡No election held.

June 30, 1870, a special town meeting was held to vote for or against a donation of $75,000 to the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company. This question is discussed more fully in the chapter on the coming of the railroad.

Mount Morris township has furnished competent men, not only for the administration of her own affairs but also has sent many of her most prominent citizens to fill places of trust and honor in the various departments of the county government; a number have been elected to seats in the General Assembly of Illinois; and one has entered the halls of our National Legislature, where he has acquired a world-wide reputation. Probably no more appropriate place could be found for enumerating these distinguished men. They are as follows:

*Member of Congress, House of Representatives.*—Hon. Robert R. Hitt.

*Illinois State Senate.*—Prof. Daniel J. Pinckney, 25th and 26th General Assemblies; Hon. Isaac Rice, 32nd and 33rd General Assemblies.

*Illinois State House of Representatives.*—Samuel M. Hitt, 14th General Assembly; Prof. Daniel J. Pinckney, 19th, 20th and 24th General Assemblies; Dr. Francis A. McNeill, 22nd General Assembly; Hon. Isaac Rice, 28th and 29th General Assemblies; Hon. Franklin N. Tice, 30th and 31st General Assemblies.

*Sheriffs of Ogle County.*—Elis Baker, 1853 and 1854; Charles Newcomer, 1855 and 1856; Frederick G. Petrie, 1859 and 1860.

*County Judge.*—James M. Webb.

*County Surveyors.*—Joshua Rice, 1843–'45; A. Quimby Allen, 1857–'58 and 1861–'76.

*County Superintendents of Schools.*—Eldridge W. Little, 1859–'62, Joseph M. Piper, 1888– ——.

*County Coroner.*—Dr. W. W. Hanes, 1892– ——.

*County Commissioners.*—Henry Hiestand, 1845–1846.

*Members Constitutional Convention.*—Daniel J. Pinckney, 1848; Charles Newcomer, 1862.

# CHAPTER V.

## ROCK RIVER SEMINARY.

The name Rock River Seminary is perhaps fading from the memory of the younger generation, but to the older citizens of Mount Morris, and to thousands scattered all over this broad land, the remembrances of that grand old institution of learning will live until they are effaced by the hand of Death. During the most palmy days of the seminary, Mount Morris enjoyed the distinction of being the great literary center of the northwest, and was justly proud of "Old Sandstone," standing so prominently in the center of the dignified little village. In reviewing the progress of this institution, it must be remembered that its pupils were gathered from a very wide extent of territory. There are probably more young men and women now in one-half of Ogle county, who desire and need the advantages of such an institution, than there were then in all northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, and Rock River Seminary was the only institution of the kind then in existence in all this great territory. For this reason, if for no other, the seminary exerted a more commanding influence in all this region than is now exerted by the present college or any other institution of similar character. It is not strange, therefore, that, during the long term of its existence, the school played a very important part in moulding the destinies of the inhabitants of the comparatively unknown northwest,—a part that cannot be told in words, but which is nevertheless written in characters ineffaceable upon the hearts of those who within the walls of "Old Sandstone" received their inspiration to become noble men and women and to be of use in the world, the fruits of whose endeavor eternity alone can reveal.

Rock River Seminary was founded in the year 1839, chiefly by the exertions of a few large-hearted, far-seeing, and public-spirited settlers living in the vicinity,—Hon. Samuel M. Hitt, Rev. Thomas S. Hitt, Hon. John Wallace, Martin Reynolds, Capt. Nathaniel Swingley, C. Burr Artz, and several others. These gentlemen were strong advocates of liberal education and had previously instituted and supported a school called the Pine Creek Grammar School, taught by A. Quimby Allen. They conceived the idea of developing this school into an institution of learning of high character; and, after consultation, they decided that the Rev. Thomas S. Hitt should attend the Illinois Conference of the M. E. church, in session at Jacksonville in 1838, for the purpose of inducing that body to take the Pine Creek Grammar School under its special charge and develop it into an institution of high standing. Mr. Hitt laid the matter before the conference, of which Rev. John Clark was presiding elder. The conference, which was very much interested in the cause of education, was inclined to

consider such action of doubtful propriety, but finally decided to establish a seminary in northern Illinois, for which the Maryland colony would be given a chance to contest. A committee, of which Elder Clark, Rev. Hitt, Rev. Leander S. Walker, and Rev. P. R. Barien were members, was appointed, to receive propositions from various places desiring the seminary and willing to contribute to its support. Propositions were received from Joliet, Chicago, Roscoe, Kishwaukee, and the Maryland colony. The citizens of the Maryland colony were determined to secure the location; and, in numerous consultations, a general line of action was agreed upon, each pledging a liberal contribution. Eight thousand dollars and four hundred and eighty acres of land were pledged, an exceedingly heavy burden to be boldly assumed by a small handful of men in a new country where money was scarce and laborers few. In a speech at the students' reunion, held in Mount Morris in 1886, Col. B. F. Sheets remarked that "if men would give to the cause of education now, in proportion that the founders of this seminary gave to the early foundation, you would posssess a university fully equipped."

The committee upon location paid a visit to each of the places from which propositions had been received, arriving at the Maryland colony last. They visited the grammar school in the rude log schoolhouse, and, after witnessing the exercises, requested the pupils to retire, that they might have the room for consultation. The discussion was heated and lasted far into the night, there being several members of the committee who favored Kishwaukee, and others, Roscoe. Finally the chairman threw his influence in favor of the Maryland colony, and this settled the question. A number of the settlers, the teacher and the pupils of the school had tarried outside, listening with anxiety to the discussion. When the favorable decision was reached, all gave vent to their feelings by throwing their hats in the air and awakening the stillness of the night with their joyous hurrahs. The next day the committee selected the crest of the hill, out upon the open prairie and now included in the present college campus, as a site for the future seminary.

The work was immediately pushed forward with energy. A building committee, consisting of Messrs. Samuel M. Hitt, Nathaniel Swingley, and C. B. Artz, was appointed. They received plans and proposals from James B. McCoy and Elias Etnyre. Mr. McCoy's proposition to erect the building for eighteen thousand dollars was accepted, and the contract awarded to him. He commenced work at once, and succeeded in advancing the basement walls to such a height that it was decided to lay the corner-stone with appropriate ceremony on July 4, 1839. On the appointed day the southwest angle of the walls had been raised sufficiently high to support the corner-stone. The people gathered from as far as forty miles around, for it was an occasion of intense interest to the community. The number of people present was estimated to have been over five hundred, an immense crowd for such a thinly-populated country. It was a glorious day for the pupils of Mr. Allen's school. They were marshaled in double file, with their teacher at their head, in front of the old log schoolhouse; and, pro-

vided with a banner, one side of which bore the words "United We Stand, Divided We Fall," and the other, "Science and Virtue," they marched with proud and elastic step to the beautiful spot where the corner-stone of a temple of instruction was to be laid for their benefit. The services were conducted by Rev. T. S. Hitt, who laid the stone and delivered the oration. After the exercises, the half-dozen families residing within a radius of several miles spread a bounteous dinner upon the ground east of the foundation, and the visitors were invited to partake of the tempting esculents.

During the summer in which the corner-stone was laid, a part of the prairie about the building was surveyed and platted by D. Fletcher Hitt, a brother of 'Squire Samuel and Rev. Thomas S. Hitt; and the town was named Mount Morris. There is some controversy as to the origin of this name. The *Rock River Register*, in an article which is reproduced on pages 29 and 30 of this book, says that it was named in honor of Bishop Morris of the M. E. church. Most of the old settlers are of that opinion, but Horace Miller, of Kishwaukee, who was very active in his efforts to secure the location of the seminary at that place, is said to have claimed that he, himself, gave the village its name in honor of Mount Morris, New York, his former residence. He was deeply interested in the seminary, was one of the first trustees of the institution, and his claim seems plausible. It may be that he suggested the name of his old town and the Methodist elders adopted it at once because of its being in honor of Bishop Morris as well.

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees was held November 18, 1839, at which Rev. John Clark, Rev. B. Weed, Rev. Thomas Hitt, John Wallace, Horace Miller, C. B. Artz, Dr. J. J. Beatty, Capt. Nathaniel Swingley, and S. M. Bowman were present. Rev. Clark was elected president; Rev. Weed, vice-president; S. M. Bowman, secretary; and Grant Goodrich, George D. H. Wilcoxon, and James Johnson, members of the Board. Rev. Hitt, who had been appointed agent of the institution, reported at this meeting the amount of contributions which had been pledged. He was authorized to raise money upon the sale of scholarships, as follows: For one year, $25; for two years, $50; for four years, $100; perpetual, $500. At this meeting a committee of three was appointed to draft a charter to be submitted to the General Assembly of Illinois; and another of five, to employ a principal and teachers.

January 27, 1840, at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees, held at Oregon, the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That a circular be drafted and addressed to the several presiding elders of the Methodist Episcopal church in the northern part of Illinois, and the territories of Wisconsin and Iowa, setting forth the present condition and ultimate design of the Rock River Seminary, and earnestly requesting them to use their influence with the several traveling and local preachers and others in their respective districts to take up, as soon as practicable, collections in small sums from all individuals who may be willing to contribute to the erection of said seminary.

In anticipation of the opening of the school, it was ordered, at a

meeting in April, 1840, that the price of board for students under 15 years of age should be $1.50 per week; over that age, $1.75. The scale of prices for tuition was also established. It was further agreed that John Wallace should act as steward of the seminary.

In May, 1840, the committee appointed to hire a principal reported having secured Prof. Joseph N. Waggoner, of the Genesee (N. Y.) Wesleyan Seminary, and arrangements had been made with him whereby he should receive for his services for three months commencing June 1, 1840, the sum of $30 for his traveling expenses to this country, and $20 per month for his services as teacher. At the meeting at which this report was made, Rev. Alexander Irvine, an earnest and active Methodist minister, was appointed to visit Chicago for the purpose of soliciting donations.

Later, he reported having obtained subscriptions to the amount of $186.75, also a stove, whereupon the board voted that he should have the stove and his stage fare, $35, as compensation for his services.

Prof. Waggoner, the principal engaged, arrived by the specified time, June, 1840; and, the seminary building not being completed, he was detailed to teach during the summer in the old log schoolhouse, where A. Quimby Allen formerly taught, situated a short distance south of the present residence of William Lohafer. He was re-engaged at the expiration of the first three months at $20 per month until the beginning of the first term, when his salary was to be fixed at $300 per annum.

The annual session of the Rockford Conference was appointed at Mount Morris in the fall of 1840, when it was expected the seminary building would be so far completed that the meeting could be held beneath its roof, but in this expectation the people were disappointed, as the plastering had not been completed by the appointed time. Consequently, they held a camp-meeting in the grove about two miles northwest of the unfinished edifice. In September, the Rock River Conference appointed the following Board of Trustees of the seminary: John Clark, Samuel M. Hitt, John H. Rountree, J. B. Crist, Anthony Pitzer, Nathaniel Swingley, Leander S. Walker, James Mitchell, John Sinclair, C. Burr Artz, Thomas Ford, Bartholomew Weed, Thomas S. Hitt, and James J. Beatty. Rev. John Sharp was appointed steward, and all arrangements made for the opening of the school.

On the first Friday in November, 1840, the first term of the Rock River Seminary was opened and continued twenty-two weeks. Considering the sparse settlement of the country, the attendance was very good. The board of instruction consisted of Prof. Joseph N. Waggoner, principal and professor of languages; Rev. Lyman Catlin, professor of Mathematics; and Miss Cornelia N. Russell, preceptress. The second term commenced on the first Friday in May, 1841. A primary, in charge of Mrs. Fannie Russell, was established, and of course increased the enrollment. Mrs. Russell received $2 per week and board. Her department was discontinued after several years.

In December, 1841, the trustees passed the following resolutions, designed to build up the village and increase the seminary's patronage:

*Resolved*, That lots be donated to applicants applying until the first of June next, who shall build a house, of stone, brick or frame, not less than 16x24 feet, one and one-half stories high, to be fitted for occupancy by the first of January, 1841, or sooner.

*Resolved*, That all lots in the town of Mount Morris be deeded with the proviso that houses of ill-fame, gambling, and retailing of ardent spirits be prohibited.

The seminary was formally dedicated January 3, 1841, Samuel N. Samples, a lawyer of Oregon, delivering the address. About this time, Rev. Luke Hitchcock, later an eminent Methodist divine, was appointed an additional special agent, to assist Samuel M. Hitt, the regular agent, whose health was failing. The seminary was also incorporated and a charter accepted.

The first school year ended October 7, 1841. The order of the closing exercises was as follows:

GENTLEMEN.

1. *Music.*
2. *Prayer.*
3. *Music.*
4. Stability of Our Republic. - - - JOHN B. CHENEY, Boonsboro, Md.
5. Man a Social Being. - - - - - HENRY MADDEN, Belmont, Wis.
6. Freedom. - - - - - - - JESSE S. PITZER, Ottawa, Ill.
7. *Music.*
8. Beauties of Nature. - - - - JAMES D. TURNER, Freeport, Ill.
9. Intellectual Culture. - - - EPHRAIM INGALS, Palestine Grove, Ill.
10. *Music.*
11. Formation of Character. - - - CHARLES M. HAMMOND, Sycamore, Ill.
12. The Art of Printing, - - - - SAMUEL M. FELLOWS, Dixon, Ill.
13. Independence. - - - - BENJ. G. STEPHENS, Apple River, Ill.
14. *Music.*
15. True Greatness, - - - - - CHARLES DEMENT, Dixon, Ill.
16. A Superintending Providence Manifest in the Affairs of Nature. - - - - - - - - GEORGE A. INGALS, Palestine Grove, Ill.
17. *Music.*
18. *Benediction.*

LADIES.

1. *Prayer.*
2. All Is Not Gold That Glitters. - - - - - SUSIE V. WEST.
3. Attachments to Early Habits. - - - - ELIZABETH O. CLEMENT.
4. Advantages of History. - - - - - HELEN M. JUDSON.
5. Advantages of Strict Adherence to Truth, - - - - EMILY YOUNG.
6. Perseverance Accomplishes Everything. - - - AMANDA WHEELER.
7. Contemplation. - - - - - - - ALMIRA M. ROBERTSON.
8. *Benediction.*

Prof. Waggoner, principal of the school during the first year, was an able and faithful instructor. After leaving Mount Morris, he was for many years a prosperous bookseller of Galena. Miss Russell was also an accomplished teacher and made many warm friends during her term of service.

The catalogue issued at the end of this year, a copy of which is preserved in Hon. R. R. Hitt's library in Mount Morris, proves to be very interesting. It consists of eight pages and a cover. Page 1 is the title page; page 2 contains the names of the members of the Board of Trustees, the Agents, and Board of Visitors; page 3 contains the names of the

instructors and the start of the list of the male students, which ends on page 6. The names of the female students commence on that page and conclude on the next, after which there is a summary of all the students, as follows: Male, 108; female, 48; total, 156. The eighth page contains general information, and is interesting enough to be reproduced here. It is as follows:

## Course of Study.

The Course of Study to be pursued in the different departments of the school has not been definitely determined. Classes have been taught during the year in the following branches; viz., Spelling, Reading, Writing; Colburn's, Adams's, and Emerson's Arithmetic; Mitchell's and Smith's Geography; Town's Analysis; Scholar's Companion; Parker's Composition; Hale's U. S. History; Brown's Grammar; Bailey's and Day's Algebra; Davies's Legendre's Geometry; Olmsted's Compendium of Natural Philosophy; Olmsted's Astronomy; Comstock's Philosophy and Chemistry; Andrews and Stoddard's Latin Grammar; Anthon's Latin Lessons; Jacob's Reader and Anthon's Cæsar; Anthon's Greek Lessons and Grammar; Surault's French Grammar; Vie de Washington; Burritt's Geography of the Heavens; Mrs. Lincoln's Botany; Jameson's Rhetoric; Wayland's Moral Science; Hedge's Logic; Painting and Music.

### TERMS, VACATIONS, &C.

The Academic year is divided in *two* terms of *twenty-two* weeks each, one beginning on the first Friday in May; the other, the first Friday in November.

There are two vacations of *four* weeks each. The terms are subdivided into two quarters of eleven weeks each, without any intervening vacation.

There will be a public examination and exhibition at the close of each term.

### EXPENSES.

*Tuition per Quarter of eleven weeks.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Spelling and Reading, | $2.00 |
| Small Geography, Small Arithmetic, &c., | 3.00 |
| Higher Branches of English, | 4.00 |
| All other Branches, | 5.00 |
| Painting, extra, | 3.00 |
| Music, " | 10.00 |
| Boarding with the Steward, including room-rent and use of furniture, per week, | 1.50 |

Students furnish their own lights, beds, and towels. A small charge is made during the winter for fuel.

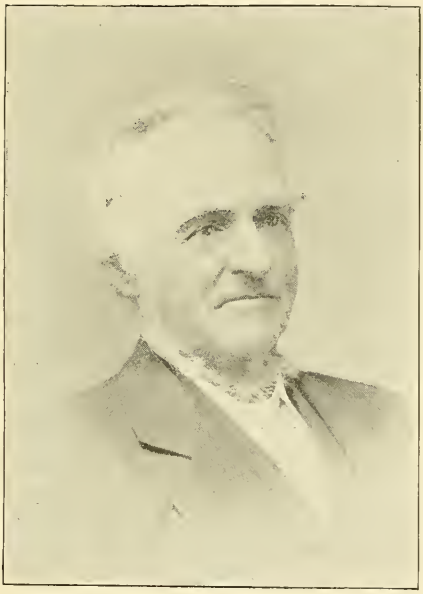
Payment for board and tuition must be made *Quarterly* in advance; but in case students are obliged to leave the institution on account of sickness, the money will be refunded.

During the second year of school, Rev. Daniel J. Pinckney, then professor in the Genesee (N. Y.) Wesleyan Seminary, was elected principal of the seminary, and arrived in Mount Morris in August, 1842. Upon his arrival he found the school in a much less prosperous condition than it was the year previous. The heavy debt was being diminished very slowly; the building was not yet entirely completed, and only sixteen students were in attendance. He at once put his shoulder to the wheel, and during the summer traveled extensively in northern Illinois and southern

Wisconsin, working up the interests of the institution with such good effect that the fall term opened with one hundred and fifty students in attendance. From that time on throughout the many years that Prof. Pinckney was connected with the school, it was very successful and had an abundance of students. Its usefulness, however, was much crippled because of a lack of finances.

The following sketch, a part of the history of the seminary, written by Hon. R. R. Hitt and which appeared in the catalogue of the seminary for 1874, will be interesting at this juncture:

The country was then very sparsely-settled,—a wide region of far-sweeping prairies, with winding strips of woodland following the course of the streams,—the few people scattered here and there were mostly persons with narrow means, working diligently to open farms, living in small, inconvenient, temporary houses, with the pressure of necessity—clothing, food, the improvement of the land, their stock and crops—to divert their attention from the future value of education to their sons and daughters. They generally possessed more individual energy and force of character than is found in the average citizen nowadays, and responded readily to the appeals of the agents of the seminary and the enthusiastic Methodist circuit riders, who entered upon this cause as heartily as they do upon every other good thing. The students who came were, many of them, crude and awkward beginners; a few were advanced by previous advantages in the east, but they were generally of good families, and their education in the school was preceded and supplemented by home and social education, rendering it ten-fold more valuable. They grew up with the spirit of the period upon them, the energy characteristic of a new country, and, as a result, there is a surprising proportion of those whose names occur as students in the catalogues of those days who have risen to distinction as clergymen, lawyers, merchants, politicians, editors, influential and substantial citizens, or accomplished, useful and honored women. Among those whose names appeared in the first catalogues were Dr. Augustus H. Ankney, now a leading and wealthy citizen of Clinton, Iowa; T. C. Ankney, of Viroqua, editor of the Wisconsin *Independent;* Rev. John Emery Clark, a well-known Methodist educator; John B. Cheney, afterward a brilliant lawyer; Albert Deere, the manufacturer of the Deere plow at Moline; Prof. S. M. Fellows, long a teacher here, a man of great worth and scholarship; Richard M. Hamilton, of Chicago; James C. T. Phelps, William J. Mix, of Oregon; Rev. William R. Irvine, Hon. James D. Turner, Gen. W. H. L. Wallace, afterward a prominent lawyer, a soldier of distinction in the Mexican War, and in the late war rising to the rank of a General officer, fell fighting gallantly at Shiloh; Gen. M. R. M. Wallace, brother of the



PROF. DANIEL J. PINCKNEY.

preceding, now at Chicago and judge of the Cook county court; Captain John F. Wallace, another brother, who served in the army and died at Galveston, Texas. Among the ladies, Margaret C. Hitt, now wife of Hon. D. J. Pinckney; Helen M. Judson, now wife of Gov. John L. Beveridge, Elizabeth Reynolds, now wife of Hon. L. P. Sanger. Scores of others, equally well-known and honored, might be mentioned from the 156 names in the first catalogue.

Since the writing of the foregoing in 1874, some of the persons mentioned advanced to still more prominent positions, but most of them have now died. In addition to those already mentioned must also be added our townsman and member of Congress from this District, Hon. Robert R. Hitt; John W. Hitt, for many years a prominent citizen of Mount Morris, now of Iowa; Robert S. Hitt, of Chicago; Dr. Benj. G. Stephens, who died in Mount Morris a number of years ago; Almira M. Robertson, now Mrs. A. M. Bacon of Oregon: Ann E. Swingley, now Mrs. J. C. Phelps of Oregon; John Hitt, Deputy Collector of Customs at Chicago over thirty years; James Martin, afterward a professor in the institution, and later principal of a seminary near Sacramento, Cal. During later years when Prof. Pinckney was principal, a great many other prominent men attended the seminary, among whom were Gen. John A. Rawlins, Secretary of War under President Grant; Gov. John L. Beveridge; Gov. Shelby M. Cullom, at present U. S. Senator; Hon. G. L. Fort, member of Congress; Hon. James H. Beveridge, ex-State-Treasurer; Hon. Henry L. Magoon, at one time member of Congress from Wisconsin; Rev. Dr. Fowler, editor of the *Christian Advocate and Journal*, New York; Daniel H. Wheeler, afterward professor at Cornell College and in the Northwestern University at Evanston, and later editor of the *Methodist* at New York: Hon. Moses Hallett, afterward United States Judge in Colorado; John V. Farwell, a partner in one of the largest wholesale dry-goods houses in Chicago; Congressman George W. Curtis, of Iowa: James H. Cartwright, Chief Justice of Illinois: John P. Hand, Justice Supreme Court of Illinois; Judge Theodore D. Murphy, Woodstock, Illinois; Judge Edmund W. Burke, Chicago; Judge Lucien C. Blanchard, Oskaloosa, Iowa; Judge Reuben C. Bassett, Seneca, Kansas; Gen. Smith D. Atkins, Freeport, Illinois; Prof. Fernando Sanford, Leland Stanford University, California; and many others who have achieved success, but cannot readily be traced.

Prof. Pinckney left the institution in the hands of his assistant, Prof. S. R. Thorpe, during the latter part of the school year 1844–'45, on account of ill-health. Dr. J. C. Finley succeeded him during the next year, after which Prof. Pinckney again took charge. In 1847, he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention, and, during his absence, left Prof. Fellows in charge of the seminary. From 1847 to 1850, Rev. Carmi C. Olds served as principal, also Prof. Fellows during the latter part of the school year 1849–'50, after which Prof. Pinckney was again elected to the office.

About this time "Old Sandstone" began to be entirely inadequate for the requirements of the school, with its large number of students, and plans were put on foot for the erection of the large stone building now known as "Old Sandstone," the name being transferred to it when the

original "Old Sandstone" was torn down in 1893. At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, September 9, 1850, action was taken and the following resolution adopted:

*Resolved*. That we advertise in the *Mount Morris Gazette*, to receive proposals for stone and brick work and other materials, for the walls of a new seminary building forty by one hundred feet, four stories high, until the first of October, 1850.

Prof. Pinckney, F. B. Brayton, and Enoch Wood were appointed a building committee, and in May, 1851, were authorized to close a contract with Jacob Myers for the erection of the stone walls for the new building, and work was commenced soon afterward. The immense quantity of stone necessary was quarried from a ledge along Pine creek.

To establish an endowment fund for the seminary, the scholarship system was adopted in 1851. Scholarships were to be perpetual and sold for $60. The next year, as an additional means to raise funds, a part of the seminary land, now the Botanical Garden Addition, containing thirteen and one-half acres, was ordered surveyed, divided into forty-eight lots, and recorded as an addition to the village.

In 1852, a new charter was drafted, and Prof. Pinckney went to Springfield to apply to the Legislature for an act of incorporation as a university, with university privileges, in which he was entirely successful. Prof. Pinckney resigned as principal in January, 1853, and Prof. George L. Little was his successor. Prof. Little was succeeded by Prof. Spencer Matteson, and upon the death of the latter, in November, 1853, Prof. Pinckney again assumed active control of the school.

The new stone building, commenced in 1851, was not yet completed in June, 1854, it being estimated at that time that six thousand dollars would be sufficient to complete it. The trustees passed the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That we raise twelve thousand dollars on well-secured pledges, to be appropriated to the payment of the debts of Rock River Seminary, and to the finishing and furnishing of the new building. Provided, the said sum of twelve thousand dollars shall be thus pledged and secured by the twentieth day of September next.

Prof. Pinckney again resigned the principalship, in June, 1855, and his active connection with the institution ceased. For more than thirteen years he had devoted his time, energies and money to advance the prosperity and usefulness of the Rock River Seminary, and had been its principal most of that period. He was its greatest worker and strongest director through trying but famous years. He was a fine teacher and bold thinker, possessing a brilliant, many-sided mind.

Prof. N. T. Harlow followed Prof. Pinckney as principal, the new building being then ready for occupancy. A loan of twelve thousand dollars was obtained from the Northwestern University, secured by the seminary property and notes, to pay for the new building and other debts.

In 1858, the seminary property was rented to Profs. Harlow and Pope, who conducted the school for a number of years.

June 20, 1865, Prof. Harlow resigned as principal, and Profs. John Williams and O. F. Matteson were elected associate principals. In 1867,

Rev. J. M. Caldwell became principal and served two years. June 23, 1869, the entire faculty having resigned, Prof. Brush was elected principal but would not accept, and Rev. R. H. Wilkinson was then chosen. He served until June, 1870, when he resigned. On September 28, 1870, a contract was made with Rev. S. H. Adams, whereby he should run the seminary according to the provisions of the charter, and have all the revenues from the same until they reached the sum of four thousand dollars. Elaborate provisions were made for the disposition of any surplus that might accrue. This appears to have been a very weak period in the history of the school, and for several years afterward the doors of "Old Sandstone" were closed and the school suspended.

May 7, 1873, the trustees held a meeting and passed a resolution that the executive committee be authorized to make, in connection with R. R. Hitt, such arrangements with some person or persons, as would secure the opening of the school and the running of the same, without incurring expense or liability to the trustees. Later, this committee reported having secured the services of N. C. Dougherty as principal, together with a full and competent faculty. Prof. Dougherty managed the affairs of the institution for a number of years with skill and ability, and once more the time-honored halls resounded with the tread of students. The faculty during the first year of the administration of Prof. Dougherty consisted of himself as principal; R. Arthur Edwards, professor of Latin and Greek; Miss Lottie M. Smith, preceptress, Miss Maria Hitt, teacher of Music.

Toward the close of the principalship of Prof. Doughtery, the seminary bore the appearance of prosperity, but an expensive faculty was too much of a burden upon the financial resources of the institution, and the school finally closed down in 1878 for that reason. Then, too, the Methodists had established at Evanston a much larger and better-equipped school known as the Northwestern University, which encroached very seriously upon the territory from which the seminary had drawn her students. The heavy mortgage upon the property of the seminary finally ended the administration of the Methodists. To satisfy the creditors the property was sold, Hon. R. R. Hitt being the purchaser. Mr. Hitt kept the seminary property in his possession for some time, but finally disposed of the two old buildings and campus to Elders Melchor Newcomer and D. L. Miller, and John W. Stine, for the sum of six thousand dollars. The two blocks west of the present campus and now known as the Seminary Addition, Mr. Hitt had platted and sold in lots.

Thus ended the career of the renowned and time-honored Rock River Seminary, after a checkered but influential life of forty years. In her history it has not been deemed necessary to refer to the hundreds of men and women whose names were inscribed upon the rolls during the long series of years in which the institution continued the most flourishing in this part of the country. The names of many of them who have attained success in various avocations after leaving Mount Morris have already been given. Hon. R. R. Hitt has very briefly summed up a few points concern-

ROCK RIVER SEMINARY AS IT APPEARED IN THE SEVENTIES.

ing the most prominent principals and preceptresses, as follows: "The long administration of Principal D. J. Pinckney was conspicuous for its ability and success. Principal C. C. Olds was an excellent teacher and a general favorite. Prof. D. H. Wheeler, now of Northwestern University and editor of the *Lakeside Monthly*, first a student and then a professor, gave abundant promise of the great reputation as an author, scholar and minister which he has achieved. Several of the preceptresses who successively had charge of the young ladies, were of unusual character and grace; notably, Miss C. A. Hurd, afterward Mrs. Pettingill, of Niles, Mich.; Miss E. V. Mitchell, afterward Mrs. A. M. Hitt; Miss Rosalie D. Blanchard, later wife of Major Charles Newcomer, of Mount Morris; Miss Elizabeth Clement, now Mrs. Dr. Dinsmore, of Omaha, Nebr.; Miss Sarepta Irish, now Mrs. S. M. I. Henry, of Rockford, Illinois."

* * * * * *

In December, 1885, after the institution had been under the control of the Brethren for several years, a number of the citizens of Mount Morris, who still harbored a warm affection in their hearts for the old school, conceived the idea of having a reunion of the *alumni* of the seminary, together with all those who attended from its origin in 1839 to the close in 1879. The plan received enthusiastic support, and the reunion, which occurred in June, 1886, was a great success. The first move toward the carrying out of the project was the calling of a meeting in February, which resulted in the appointment of the following officers: Hon. R. R. Hitt, president; A. W. Brayton, treasurer; Dr. W. T. Speaker, secretary. As many names and addresses of old students and teachers were obtained as possible, and a circular issued, requesting names and addresses of others. This circular was sent to about three hundred persons, and from this small nucleus the whereabouts of more than sixteen hundred of "Old Sandstone's" graduates and students were learned. From north and south, east and west, came letters conveying the names and addresses of farmers, merchants, clergymen, governors, senators, legislators, judges, bishops, poets, and men and women occupying the most prominent and enviable positions in life. Also missives from across the briny deep told in tender and loving words of the deep regrets, and the longings to be present with that noble band of boys and girls, students of "Old Rock River Seminary." From the flattering results obtained from the first circular, committees were appointed to carry forward the completion of, and arrange dates for, the grand reunion. The twenty-ninth and thirtieth days of June and the first day of July, 1886, were the days selected for the occasion, with a program filled with many rare treats.

Not less than 7,500 students went out into the world from the shades of "Old Sandstone" since its foundation. Out of this number, 365 names were enrolled on the secretary's book at the reunion, and their owners answerered "present" at the "roll-call" during "chapel exercises." Mount Morris gave the visitors a royal welcome. Wesley street was gaily decorated with evergreens and flags, and the "Welcome," in huge letters,

stretched entirely across the street, showing due appreciation of the event. A large flag was also stretched above the stile at the east entrance of the college campus. In the southeast corner of the beautiful grassy campus, under the foliage of large spreading maples, seats were erected for a thousand people, and a stage that would accommodate a hundred.

The programs of the three days were participated in by scores of men who possessed great ability. Thousands of people gathered each day to hear them relate tales of their old college days, and tell of the pleasures, as well as the hardships, of the days spent in acquiring knowledge within "Old Sandstone." Among the old students who gave the longest and most interesting speeches were Hon. John Hitt, of Chicago; Col. B. F. Sheets, of Oregon; and Hon. R. R. Hitt. Later in the summer, there was published a 56-page booklet, containing a complete report of the proceedings of the three days, also the letters of regret sent in to the secretary, and the entire roll of all the old students who attended the reunion. It is a valuable keep-sake.

The reunion was a grand success, and the pleasure and profit afforded by the three days spent in talking over "auld lang syne" will not be forgotten by those present while life lasts. And may it be likewise with "Old Rock River Seminary!"

# CHAPTER VI.

## MOUNT MORRIS COLLEGE.

One of the first attractions to engage the attention of the visitor to our village is Mount Morris College, with its three substantial buildings and park-like campus, situated on the crest of the elevation upon which the village is built. The ideal situation of the institution—just opposite the two principal business blocks—makes a very favorable impression upon the stranger, and expressions of admiration are frequently heard. The college of today is the monument which has been reared upon the ruins of the old and time-honored Rock River Seminary, whose eventful career has been followed in the preceding chapter. Before proceeding with a description of the college as it is today, it will be well to trace its history from the time the Brethren purchased the property in 1879.

As has already been noted in the previous chapter, the Rock River Seminary, during the seventies, gradually became involved in financial difficulties which finally ended her career. Hon. R. R. Hitt purchased the property, which he later disposed of to Elders Melchor Newcomer and D. L. Miller, and John W. Stein, for $6,000. These gentlemen were members of the German Baptist Brethren church, and they purchased the property with the intention of starting a school which should be conducted under the auspices of that denomination. After expending several thousand dollars in improvements, the three gentlemen reopened the school under the name of Rock River Seminary and Collegiate Institute. Mr. Stein was elected president and D. L. Miller, business manager. A catalogue and a circular were issued, a competent faculty engaged, and all preparations made toward getting the institution in working order.

On August 20, 1879, the first term of the school under the management of these Brethren was opened. Sixty students—a very encouraging beginning considering all the circumstances—were in attendance. Prof. Stein displayed remarkable ability as president of the college and as an instructor, but in the year 1881 he became the principal of an escapade, the equal of which never occurred in Mount Morris before or since. On pretence of going to Europe for his health, he left his wife and family and eloped with his ward, Miss Delilah Tombaugh, who had been living with the family and attending the college.*

*This sensational escapade of Prof. Stein was a romance long discussed by Mount Morris people. It appears that when Prof. Stein and his family came to Mount Morris they were accompanied by Miss Tombaugh, who is said to have been a girl of strikingly handsome face and form. She came to Mount Morris to enjoy the educational advan-

After his departure, Elder D. L. Miller became president and also continued as business manager of the college, which rather dignified title the institution was then beginning to assume. Under his management the patronage of the school rapidly increased, young men and women coming from all parts of the country where members of the Brethren church were located.

In 1884, the trustees obtained a new charter for the school and changed the name to Mount Morris College. The capital stock at that time amounted to $30,000. In that year, Prof. J. G. Royer came here with his family from Indiana, and invested considerable money in stock. He was then elected president, which position he has filled with much credit ever since. From that time the advancement of the college has been steady, and its development has been noted with much pleasure by the citizens of Mount Morris. Each year new improvements have been added and the equipment and facilities of the college greatly increased for the better accommodation of the young men and women who came from nearly all parts of the Union to develop their moral and intellectual capabilities.

During the latter part of the eighties, the two original seminary buildings, shown on page 91, began to be recognized as entirely inadequate for the growing necessities of the college. Accordingly, plans were set on foot for the building of a new temple of instruction, the present College Hall, shown on page 99. About $20,000 were necessary for the erection of the desired building, and Pres. Royer started to solicit the amount by subscription throughout the Brotherhood. The canvass proved successful

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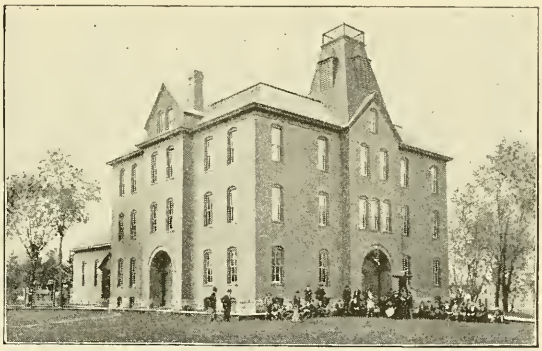
tages of the college. In intellect she was far the superior of Mrs. Stein, and she and Stein were constantly studying together, possessing, it is said, an affinity of tastes. The result of this companionship can be conjectured. Though there was a difference of twenty years in their ages, the president of the college and his pupil fell in love with each other. The vigilant public soon discovered this fact and Stein commenced to devise ways and means to evade the consequences of his guilty amour. He gave out that the duties of the presidency were weighing upon him to such an extent that it was imperative for him to take a trip to Europe in order to recuperate. He also represented that Miss Tombaugh was to be married to a young man named Petri, in Chicago, and he accompanied her thither, returning with a glowing account of the wedding. Later he started on his supposed trip to Europe. With the exception of a letter from New York and one from Vienna nothing further was heard from him for two years. The Brethren became alarmed, and through Congressman Hitt, then Assistant Secretary of State, inquiries were set on foot and search made by ministers and consuls in all the principal cities of Europe for six months, but without success. At last Stein was given up for dead. Two years later, however, a letter came from the missing man, who was living at Portland, Oregon. In his communication, Stein confessed that he had never been to Europe, but that he was living with Miss Tombaugh on a government claim in Oregon. The letter from Vienna was only a blind, he having given it at New York to a German tourist, who mailed it for him when he arrived at the Austrian capital. The news of Stein's duplicity came upon the Brethren like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky. They had reposed the utmost confidence in him as a reliable educator and a faithful minister of the gospel. Under the circumstances, they were compelled to disown him. Prof. Fernando Sanford, who was a member of the faculty during Prof. Stein's presidency, now of the Leland Stanford University, in a letter to the Century Reunion of students and professors of Mount Morris College, held during the Brethren's annual meeting at North Manchester, Indiana, in June, 1900, touchingly refers to the unfortunate occurrence as follows: "No one who ever came under the spell of that wonderful man, John W. Stein, can forget the impression which he made. I speak of him reverently, not attempting to excuse in any manner his fatal weakness, the result of I know not what heredity, but without which he would have seemed to us more than common man. I have met many noble men and women, but not one in whose innate nobleness of character or upright intentions I have had, or still have, more faith; or for whose fatal weakness I could more easily weep. No experience of my life has influenced me more toward charity for the weaknesses of my fellow-men than the sad example of him whom we all loved as a father."

*A CAMPUS VIEW OF MOUNT MORRIS COLLEGE WHEN THE BUDS ARE UNFOLDING.*

and the contract was given to N. E. Buser. Ground was broken for the building in March, 1890, and the edifice was completed and ready for occupancy at the beginning of the fall term of 1891. This building is the most massive structure in Mount Morris. It is a plain, substantial, brick-veneered building with 72 feet front and, including a spacious chapel, 122 feet long. The main part is three stories above the basement, and contains fifteen well-arranged rooms, most of which are of ample size. On the first floor are two large recitation rooms, separated from the commodious chapel by folding-doors, which when opened permit the rooms to be used as annexes to the chapel, thereby greatly increasing its seating capacity. There also two smaller recitation rooms and a Bible library and reading-room on this floor. The library contains 600 good text-books and treatises upon the Bible and Bible subjects. The second floor contains the president's office, the bookstore and business manager's office, three recitations rooms, two of them, the Mathematics room and the Studio, being quite roomy: and the general library, containing in the neighborhood of 20,000 volumes. These books are arranged on all four sides of the room, from the floor to the ceiling. There is also a large rack filled with books. At one time this large library formed part of the famous collection of books owned by Abram H. Cassel, of Harleysville, Pa., an old patriarch of the Brethren church, who spent almost his entire life in the acquisition of rare and valuable books. The library was purchased in 1881 by Messrs. Miller, Newcomer and Stein, for the sum of $6,000. The library room is also nicely fitted up for a reading-room, and is supplied with the best periodicals of the day. A view of a portion of the library is shown on the next page. On the third floor are two recitation rooms, the bell-ringer's apartment, and the elegantly-furnished halls of the Amphictyon and the Philorhetorian Literary Societies. These halls were furnished by the societies at their own expense, and are the finest rooms in the building. Each is supplied with up-to-date opera chairs, arranged in semi-circular sections. The curtains, carpets, tables and chairs for the officers, and the papering and decorations of these halls are quite elaborate, and correspond with the importance of the work being carried on by the members of the societies. In the rear of the Philorhetorian and



COLLEGE HALL.

Erected in 1890-1891 at a cost of $20,000.

L. of C.

to one side of the Amphictyon hall is the Music room, which contains two first-class pianos. By throwing open the folding-doors, this room can be utilized as an annex by either one of the societies.

Before leaving the subject of the literary societies, it will be well to give something concerning the history of these important adjuncts of the college. Scores of men who have achieved fame in the various avenues of life derived their power of oratory from their early attempts at speaking and debating in these literary societies. The halls of our national Congress have often rung with the stirring oratory of men who attribute much of their success to the early training which they received from their society work. The history of both the societies extends further back than that of Mount Morris College, the Amphictyon being nearly as old as Rock River Seminary. It was organized in about the year 1846, and, with the exception of a number of short-lived organizations, was the only literary society in the seminary until the winter of 1851–'52, when a division

*A VIEW OF A PORTION OF THE GENERAL LIBRARY*

occurred in the Amphictyon ranks, and the Philorhetorian Literary Society was organized. It seems that there were many of the "Amphics" who resided in the country and no longer had any connection with the school, or took any interest in society except to attend on special occasions, to take prominent part in controlling elections, etc. The other members were students, who were active in literary work, many of them being young people of more than ordinary ability. Trouble naturally grew out of such a condition of affairs, and there was an attempt made to exclude those members who were no longer active. There were some turbulent scenes, and finally a part of the members drew off and formed another society, which they called the Philorhetorian. Since that time the two societies have been in existence, generally on an equality as to the respective merits of their members. Both are now in a flourishing condition. The Amphictyon Society originally held its meetings in the historic

THE PRESIDENT IN HIS OFFICE.

old chapel at the north end of the basement of the original "Old Sandstone." After the organization of the Philorhetorian Society, separate rooms on the upper floor were assigned to the societies. When the building now known as "Old Sandstone" was completed, the societies occupied rooms on the fourth floor, the "Amphics" at the east end and the "Philos" at the west end. The societies' present cozy quarters in College Hall surpass the previous ones in every particular, and engravings of them are shown on the next two pages.

In the year 1893, fortune again smiled upon the college to the extent that a new dormitory for the ladies was found to be a necessity, and the historic "Old Sandstone," which had been used for that purpose for so many years, was leveled to the ground and a larger and more modern structure erected. The new dormitory cost in the neighborhood of $10,000, and was erected by N. E. Buser, who also erected College Hall. The building is a fine three-story brick-veneered structure, with a basement; its dimensions are 30x80 feet. It is situated several rods to the west of the old seminary building.

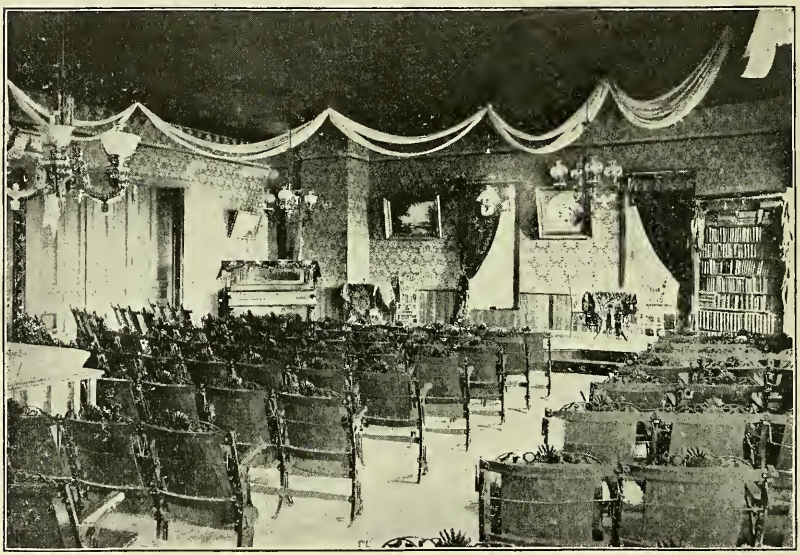
THE SUPPLY ROOM.

The greater part of the basement is taken up for the college dining-hall, a view of which appears on page 105. The *cuisine* is situated in the rear of the dining-hall. With the exception of several parlors, the upper three stories are divided into rooms for the accommodation of about seventy of the fair sex. The cozy character of the rooms makes Ladies' Hall a very desirable home for the lady students. An engraving of the building appears on page 104.

A year or so after the erection of the two new buildings, a number of changes in "Old Sandstone" No. 2 became necessary, there being a demand for more rooms for young men. Consequently, the building was given a thorough overhauling. Every floor and partition was torn out: in fact, everything was changed except the walls. This building is a massive stone structure, 120 feet long and 40 feet wide. At the east end of the first floor is a chapel in which the daily chapel exercises are held for the benefit of the students. The west end is

THE BUSINESS MANAGER.

occupied by the scientific department of the college, under the management of Prof. W. L. Eikenberry. In this department there are four rooms; viz., a chemical laboratory, a museum and library room, and two recitation rooms. The library contains about 300 volumes, treating on scientific subjects. The second floor is partly taken up by a spacious Commercial Hall, where Prof. Aaron L. Clair supervises the instruction of bookkeeping, commercial law, and the transaction of actual business. This department is always well filled. It also contains a technical library of 300 volumes. The remainder of the second floor and all of the third and fourth floors are arranged into about sixty rooms for the accommodation of the gentlemen students. This building, as well as College Hall and Ladies' Hall, is



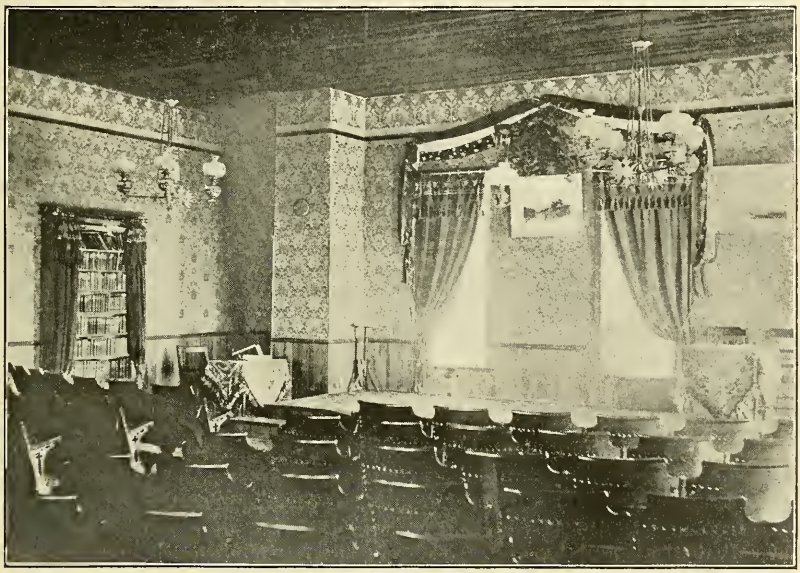
*THE AMPHICTYON LITERARY SOCIETY'S HALL.*

heated throughout by steam. During the sessions of school, in the evening when the studious inmates of "Old Sandstone" are busily engaged in preparing their lessons for the morrow, the scores of windows sending rays of glimmering light across the campus impress the observer very strongly of a bee-hive of industry. Surmounting College Hall and "Old Sandstone" are observatories, which, being a considerable height from the ground, furnish fine bird's-eye views of the surrounding country. An engraving of "Old Sandstone" appears on page 104.

Thus, improvement has followed improvement, until now the college possesses three buildings of which they may well be proud. The college at first was the property of individual stockholders, but Elder Miller, upon

his withdrawal from active connection with the school and a number of others donated their stock to the Brethren church. Since that time more stock has been turned over to the church, until only a few thousand dollars' worth yet remains in the hands of individuals. In the near future, it is though that the entire stock will become the property of the church; and, since this would the only one of the several Brethren colleges in that condition, it is only reasonable to believe that, like the Brethren Publishing House, it will be carefully fostered, and its future be made even more prosperous than its past.

The Board of Trustees of Mount Morris College at present consists of seven members; viz., D. L. Miller, Joseph Amick, J. G. Royer, A. L. Clair,

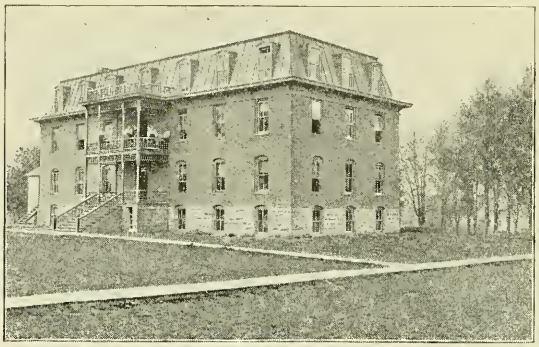


*THE PHILORHETORIAN LITERARY SOCIETY'S HALL.*

G. E. Weaver, Ephraim Trostle, and ——— ———. Elder D. L. Miller has been a member of the board since its organization. The following is a list of all the persons who have served as trustees in the past: D. L. Miller, M. S. Newcomer, John W. Stein, Samuel C. Price, Daniel Vaniman, J. C. Lehman, S. S. Young, S. E. Yundt, J. G. Royer, S. Z. Sharp, Joseph Amick, E. S. Young, Galen B. Royer, Grant Mahan, C. W. Lehman, J. E. Miller, A. L. Clair, D. D. Culler, W. L. Eikenberry, G. E. Weaver, Ephraim Trostle.

During the twenty-one years in which the college has been conducted by the Brethren, many noble men and women have been sent forth into the world, fitted to pursue lives of usefulness. A list of the graduating

classes of these eventful years discloses the names of many who have conducted themselves with credit both to themselves and to their *alma mater*. The names of those graduating in literary courses alone is quite large and is as follows:



LADIES' HALL.

Erected in 1893 at a cost of about $10,000.

1881.—Harry C. Newcomer, Alfonzo G. Newcomer, E. D. Peifer, A. W. Vaniman, Angie Yarger, S. H. Anrand, Fred. N. Rice.

1882.—Adaline Hohf Beery, J. H. Brubaker, J. T. Brubaker, L. H. Eby, Flora Grant Mershon, Reba Kosier Newcomer, J. Carson Miller, Mary E. Miller, C. W. Lehman, Isaac H. Miller.

1883.—Jennie Fearer, Albert Gebhardt, John Heckman, A. L. Shute, Jennie Mackay, Anna L. Sharp Davis, E. S. Young, Grant Mahan, Albert Motschman, Mary J. Stees, Annie S. Miller, Kate Kepner, G. E. Dawson, G. N. Falkenstein.

1884.—Effie Mackay, B. G. Davis, E. A. Orr, Marcellus Rohrbaugh, Elmer Sanford, Levi Benbow, S. L. Hanger, Edward C. Page, Georgia Bixler Jenks.

1885.—James M. Neff, Cyrus Newcomer, Allen P. Sword, W. B. Thompson, Jennie Tice Peifer.

1886.—James M. Neff, E. B. Hohf, G. L. Shoemaker, Abba Fager, Elva Newcomer Cripe, M. Eliza Canode.

1887.—J. K. Shellenberger, Laura V. Ullom, J. P. Yoder.

"OLD SANDSTONE."

Erected in the early 50's; renovated in 1895.

1888.—C. E. Culp, Ida Royer Myers, Nettie Royer Brubaker, Lizzie Shaw Evans, Fannie Stephens, Chauncey Vaniman, C. M. Vaniman, Cyrus Walleck.

1889.—Alice J. Boone, Charles Carpenter, Anna Gouckly Hohf, W. Lewis Eikenberry, Charles Lehman, Ed. Markley, T. M. Miller, Nettie Royer Brubaker, Salome Stoner Myers, Vinnie Stoner, Ida Shellenberger Oren, Wilbur B. Stover.

BOOKKEEPING DEPARTMENT.

1890.—J. E. Miller, Minnie Windle Harnley, T. T. Myers, Tobias J. C. Diekhoff, Lillie Royer Fogerty, N. R. Baker, Frank Mertz, Ivey D. Eversole, J. N. Brubaker, Will Mertz, O. Perry Hoover, Ida M. Wagner Hoff, E. J. Zern, Mary Emmert Stover, Will E. Carpenter, Daisy Kemp.

A VIEW OF THE DINING-HALL.

1891.—Wilbur B. Stover, Ida M. Royer Myers, Salome A. Stoner Myers, J. Z. Gilbert, Ella Amick Eckerle, Dollie Stephens, Lou Ella Replogle, W. I. T. Hoover, Sarah Whitmore Harnley.

1892.—Tobias J. C. Diekhoff, J. E. Miller, W. L. Eikenberry, O. P. Hoover, C. F. Ford, G. V. Goshorn, J. D. Clear, S. S. Young, E. N. Goshorn, Anna Eversole, W. P. Rodabaugh, W. I. Thomas, E. R. Yundt, M. S. Bolinger, J. H. Harnley.

ACTUAL BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

1893.—G. W. Tanreuther, N. J. Brubaker, Bertha I. Miller, D. D. Culler, D. L. Forney, M. W. Emmert, S. C. Garber, M. Alice King Eby, N. J. Miller, Lydia E. Taylor, H. M. Barwick, Salome A. Stoner Myers.

1894.—E. R. Yundt, E. N. Goshorn, I. B. Hendrickson, J. S. Flory, E. C. Thomas, O. L. Shaw, A. M. Stine, L. A. Pollock, Charles Leckrone, O. R. Myers, Katherine Hershey Young, M. W. Emmert, Anna May Miller, H. M. Spickler.

1895.—Maude Carpenter, S. M. Hoover, Josephine Royer, Della Snyder Lehner, Lizzie Grater.

1896.—G. W. Furrey, J. W. Thomas, O. A. Fackler, L. H. Carpenter, S. A. Long, Viola Trostle Yundt.

THE LADIES' TENNIS COURT.

1897.—J. B. Carpenter, Lucia McCosh, Lizzie Myers Emmert, Arthur M. Stine, Etta Moore Long, Della Myers Peifer, J. M. Myers, Mamie Yarger, Nettie Felthouse, C. H. Shock, S. A. Long.

1898.—E. T. Keiser, Lulu Kable, J. C. Shaw, Etta Rowland, Harvey J. Kable, Dollie Kepner, H. B. Metzger, W. H. Weybright, Emma Horning, Thomas E. Newcomer, Blanche Lentz, J. D. Suter.

THE GENTLEMEN'S TENNIS COURT.

1899.—Calvin McNelly, J. P. Wilson, Marie Strickfaden, Elmer Metzger, J. S. Flory, Cora Amick, Leslie Rees, W. S. Sanford, Myrtle Royer, O. G. Brubaker.

1900.—Frank B. Scott, B. L. Brayton, William Kohl, Edna Felker, Lizzie Shirk, O. T. Sadler, Frank D. Miller, B. B. Baker, A. B. Keller, E. H. Price, C. K. Burkholder, Reuben Marshall, I. E. Finney.

Among these graduates, and also among the many students who attended the college, but never finished any prescribed course of study, can be found the names of many young men who have achieved fame in various avenues of life. Among them might be mentioned the following: Prof.

THE GRADUATING CLASS OF THE ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT FOR 1900.

Alfonzo G. Newcomer, Leland Stanford University: Capt. Harry C. Newcomer, U. S. A.: Adaline Hohf Beery, poetess; J. H. Brubaker, architect, Indianapolis, Ind., and New York: Grant Mahan, associate editor of *Gospel Messenger*, Elgin, Ill.: Prof. Edward C. Page, State Normal School, DeKalb, Ill.; Prof. Cyrus Newcomer, Carthage College: Prof. Tobias J. C. Diekhoff, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Prof. W. I. T. Hoover, president Lordsburg College; Prof. O. Perry Hoover, Juniata College, D. L. Forney and W. B. Stover, missionaries, India: Mary Emmert Stover, in charge of the orphanage mission of the Brethren church, India; Galen B. Royer, secretary of the General Missionary and Tract Committee, Elgin, Ill. Quite a number of the graduates returned to their *alma mater* as instructors after pursuing advanced work in leading universities. Among these are Prof. J. E. Miller, now of the academic department of the Illinois State University at Urbana; Prof. D. D. Culler, now president of Smithville College, Ohio; Prof. S. L. Boothroyd, now engaged in a leading university of Idaho; Prof. E. N. Goshorn, now engaged in scientific farming in Indiana; and the majority of the members of the present faculty; viz., Profs. A. L. Clair, O. R. Myers, G. W. Furrey, Josephine Royer, and Heber M. Hays. A number of the former professors have attained to high positions in prominent universities. Among them might be mentioned J. W. Jenks, Cornell University; W. S. Locy, Lake Forest University; Fernando Sanford, Leland Stanford University; F. W. Hanawalt, Wesleyan University, Mount Pleasant, Iowa; and M. R. Maltbie, Columbia University. To these names can be added that of A. W. Burnett, at the head of the publishing house of Henry Holt & Co., New York.

ELOCUTION DRILL.

PHYSICAL CULTURE EXERCISE.

The foregoing names are but a few of the vast number of those whose owners are exerting a powerful influence in various callings, and who obtained their preparation for their life's work at Mount Morris College.

The faculty of the college is each year carefully selected from among men of ability. As a consequence, the school maintains a high grade of

work, which is readily recognized by the larger colleges and universities when students from Mount Morris apply for admission. The following names of the many instructors of the college, classified in their respective departments, will be of interest:

GREEK AND LATIN.—J. W. Jenks, E. C. Hughes, Karl Belser, H. P. Moyer, James M. Neff, E. J. Shaw, E. A. Bechtel, D. W. Loucks, A. H. Haines, J. J. Schlicher, J. E. Miller, Heber M. Hays.

ENGLISH.—A. W. Burnett, Mrs. Mattie Lear, —— Bartholomew, Galen B. Royer, A. H. Harnley, Grant Mahan, D. D. Culler, O. R. Myers.

GERMAN.—A. E. Gephardt, Tobias Diekhoff, Grant Mahan, D. D. Culler, O. R. Myers.

MATHEMATICS.—L. P. Cravens, M. R. Maltbie, F. W. Hanawalt, S. L. Boothroyd, Theo. Lindquist, E. N. Goshorn, G. W. Furrey.

SCIENCE.—Fernando Sanford, W. S. Locy, E. A. Orr, L. Ralph Jones, G. N. Falkenstein, A. A. Kester, Mrs. Ella Buck Schlicher, N. J. Miller, W. L. Eikenberry.

ELOCUTION.—W. E. Lockhard, S. Z. Sharp, D. D. Thomas, Anna Richards, Mrs. A. Crossman Kester, Mrs. Alma Mikesell Trump, Parmelia Mahan, Josephine Royer.

SACRED HISTORY.—J. G. Royer, E. S. Young, Mrs. Salome Stoner Myers, Mrs. Flora E. Teague, J. F. Souders.

*MOUNT MORRIS COLLEGE FACULTY OF 1893-'94.*

MUSIC.—Mrs. Nellie McClure, J. H. Myers, M. P. Lichty, Miss Marguerite Bixler, Mrs. Susie McCosh Sharer, Mrs. Cassie Beery Vandyke, Mrs. Ida Royer Myers, J. T. Miller, H. B. Metzger, Miss Sadie B. Miller, Mrs. Libbie Robertson, Miss Lucia McCosh.

ART.—Miss Siders, Mrs. Lillie Brayton Miller, G. E. Weaver, Miss Myrtle Royer.

COMMERCIAL.—M. G. Rohrbaugh, D. R. Young, J. B. Middleton, I. M. Walker, Miss Jennie Richie, Reuben Hufford, J. D. Suter, Mrs. Flora E. Teague, A. L. Clair.

The faculty for the last full school year, 1899–1900, excluding the assistants in the several departments, was as follows: J. G. Royer, president; D. D. Culler, Rhetoric, Literature and German; J. E. Miller, Greek and Latin; O. R. Myers, Psychology, Pedagogy and French; G. W. Furrey, Higher Mathematics, Astronomy and Political Economy; W. L. Eikenberry, Science and Civil Government; A. L. Clair, principal Commercial department; G. E. Weaver, principal Art department; Mrs. Flora E. Teague, Phonography and Typewriting; Mrs. Libbie Robertson, director of

MOUNT MORRIS COLLEGE FACULTY FOR 1900-'01.

Music: Miss Josephine Royer, Elocution and Physical Culture; A. W. Ross, Vocal Music. For the year 1900–1901 there are several changes. Prof. Heber M. Hays takes the place of J. E. Miller, who accepted a position in the State University at Urbana, and Miss Lucia McCosh, a graduate of the Chicago Musical College, takes Prof. Robertson's place as director of Music. D. D. Culler withdrew from the faculty at the close of the school year, June, 1900, and is now president of Smithville College, Ohio. His place is being filled by Prof. O. R. Myers. J. F. Souders is a new instructor in the Bible department; J. D. Suter is first assistant in the Commercial department; Myrtle Royer conducts the Painting department and is also assistant in Music; M. W. Emmert teaches Geography and U. S. History; and Wallace Fike is assistant in the Art department.

The engraving of the college faculty on page 111 is an excellent likeness of the members of that august body. Short sketches of the lives of the respective professors will be interesting because of the many lessons afforded by the story of each one's perseverance in developing his or her God-given talents.

Prof. John G. Royer, M. A., president of the college, has had a long and notable career in educational lines, both in the public schools of the land and in college work; and, with his prominent work as minister of the gospel in the Brethren church, he has become known over the entire Brotherhood. He was born April 22, 1838, at Hartleton, Union county, Pennsylvania, being the son of Jacob and Susan (Myers) Royer. His father was a farmer, but was also a minister of the Brethren church, preaching as opportunities were afforded him. Prof. Royer gained his early education in the country schools of his native county, and later attended the academy at Mifflinburg, but completed his literary course at Union Seminary, at New Berlin, Pa. In the meantime he did some teaching in country schools, entering upon the work when he was but sixteen years of age. At twenty he had completed his college education and he decided to pursue teaching as a life profession. From 1858 to 1863 he was engaged in teaching in the graded schools of his native state. Then, at the age of twenty-five, he went to Darke county, Ohio, and there continued teaching in graded schools eight years, being principal of the schools at Webster and Versailles the last six years. In 1871, he went to Burnettsville, White county, Indiana, and was principal of the high school at that place four consecutive years. He then accepted the superintendency of the high school at Monticello, Indiana, and held it with honor for eight years. While at this place the degree of Master of Arts was bestowed upon him, entirely unsolicited. From Monticello he came to Mount Morris and was assigned the chair of English Literature in the college. The year following his arrival he was elected to the presidency of the college, and has filled that position with much credit ever since. Pres. Royer is a strict disciplinarian, and his advice and admonition, given in private and chapel talks, has been of untold value to the students. December 8, 1860, Prof. Royer was married to Miss Lizzie Reiff, of his native county, who was born November 30, 1838. To them have been born eight children, as follows: Galen B., born September 8, 1862, married Anna Miller, of Mount Morris; Susan, born July 10, 1865, married to Prof. E. S. Young; Mary, born June 16, 1867, and is living at home; Ida, born October 27, 1868, married to J. M. Myers; Nettie, born March 31, 1870, married J. A. Brubaker; Lillie, born November 18, 1872, married James Fogerty; Josephine, born October 9, 1875; Myrtle, born June 18, 1880. Josephine and Myrtle are teaching in the college. Prof. Royer was elected to the ministry in 1872, at Monticello, Indiana, and, along with his school work, he has always taken an active part in church matters. In 1881, he was advanced to the eldership and has continued to act in that capacity ever since. He is now regarded as one of the most able ministers of the Brethren church in Illinois.

Prof. Aaron L. Clair, business manager and treasurer of the college, and principal of the Commercial department, was born at Nora, Illinois, July 25, 1866, and is the

son of Preston and Mary Clair. His early life was spent on his father's farm near Lena. Being a country boy, his educational opportunities were measured by the facilities afforded by the district school near his home. In the fall of 1888 he entered Mount Morris College. By June, 1890, besides the literary work done, he had completed the Shorter Commercial and Pen Art courses. Within a year he was called to the position of principal instructor in Penmanship and assistant in the Business department of Maryville Seminary, Missouri. The year following he was promoted to the principalship of the Business department of the seminary. In the fall of 1892 he again entered Mount Morris College. During 1893–'94, he served as an assistant in the Business college, and in September, 1894, he was promoted to the principalship, which he still fills. Prof. Clair is an instructor whom every one likes, because of his jovial nature and his very agreeable manner of conducting recitations and the work in the Commercial department. With rare tact and skill he directs the work in Commercial Hall, and the large attendance in this department is a testimonial to his ability as an instructor. Prof. Clair was married June 16, 1892, to Lizzie Albright, daughter of Jacob and Martha Albright, of Lena, Illinois. Three children have been born to them; viz., Ada Belle, May 16, 1896; Alva Burdette, March 17, 1898, died December 30, 1899; and an infant daughter, born September 12, 1900. In July, 1900, Prof. Clair was elected to the first degree of the ministry of the Brethren church.

Prof. W. Lewis Eikenberry, B. S., professor of the Science department, is the son of William and Susan Eikenberry, and was born near Waterloo, Iowa, July 12, 1871. The famous "little red schoolhouse" also played an important part in the education of this member of the faculty. After leaving the country school, he attended a short time at a private school in Waterloo, and finally came to Mount Morris College in the fall of 1887, and, after two years of solid work, graduated in the Academic class of 1889. In 1890, he again entered the college and did two years of Seminary work, graduating from that department in 1892. In the fall of the same year he enrolled at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and graduated after two years, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science. He was immediately engaged as professor of Science by his *alma mater*, and has since filled the position, with the exception of the spring term of 1899 when he made an extended trip through the west for the benefit of his health. Prof. Eikenberry is a practical scientist in every sense of the term. Each day of his life he observes and investigates every phenomenon of nature which comes to his notice, and keeps in touch with the progress of the scientific world. He is one of the exceedingly small number of men who have had the presence of mind and the opportunity to photograph a moving tornado, which feat he accomplished in 1898. Copies of the picture have appeared in quite a number of papers and magazines all over the United States, and, along with a number of other photographs of the effects of the tornado, will be found in a later chapter upon calamaties. Prof. Eikenberry is unmarried. In 1893, he was elected to the first degree of the ministry of the Brethren church, and was later advanced to the second degree. He ranks well among the local ministers of the church, preaching frequently in the college chapel.

Prof. Oscar R. Myers comes from the "Keystone" state. He was born at Lewistown, April 16, 1873, being the son of George S. and Susanna Myers. From the time of his arrival at the school age until the fall of 1889, he attended the public school at Lewistown and worked in his father's lumber establishment. He then came to Mount Morris College and completed a business course. He then became clerk and bookkeeper in the general store of D. N. Wingert & Co., which position he filled fourteen months. He completed the preparatory work and graduated with the Academic class of 1894, but continued two more years in the Seminary department. In 1896, he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. After two years of work, he graduated from that institution with the class of 1898, receiving the degree of Ph. B. He returned to the University in the fall of 1898 and in the spring of 1899 received his second degree,—that of Master of Philosophy. In the fall of 1899 he became a member of the faculty of his *alma mater*, and soon became recognized as one of the best. Prof. Myers is a young man of much energy, as is evidenced by the fact that he worked his way through college by canvassing views during summer vacations. He is unmarried.

Prof. George W. Furrey, Ph. B., has charge of the department of Mathematics. He is a son of Jacob and Sarah Furrey, of White county, Ind., and was born July 4, 1867. Besides his common school training, he attended the high school at York, Nebr., and later the Harper Normal School and Business College, at Harper, Kans., from which he graduated with the class of 1890. In 1892, he came to Mount Morris College, and, with the exception of one year, attended regularly until 1896, when he graduated. Another year was spent here in Seminary work, after which he entered the University of Michigan, from which institution he graduated in 1899, receiving the degree of Ph. B. Prof. Furrey possesses marked ability, not only in his specialty but also in literary lines. While in college he made very rapid progress in his studies, completing courses with exceptional thoroughness in much less than the prescribed time. As an instructor in mathematics he is one of the ablest the college has had. He advances his students rapidly, at the same time getting thorough work from them. Prof. Furrey was married August 26, 1897, to Miss Martha Hershey, daughter of Daniel and Barbara Hershey, of Mount Morris. They have one little girl, Margaret Lucille, born May 15, 1899.

Prof. Guilford E. Weaver, principal of the Art department, is the son of Solomon and Mary Weaver, of Wabash county, Ind., and was born March 3, 1865. His career commenced as a farm-hand and later as a painter. At the latter vocation he awakened his talent for works of art, and his brushes gradually became finer until at last he altogether discarded the clumsy paint daubers and took up the artist's delicate brush and the pen. While taking work in art at a school in Logansport, Ind., his instructor's health failed and young Weaver was appointed in his place. He held this position nearly two years and then entered the Zanerian Art College of Columbus, Ohio, from which institution he graduated after two years' work. Another year was spent at the same college in post-graduate work. Prof. Weaver then traveled throughout northern Indiana, organizing art classes and attending county fairs, receiving over one hundred premiums for work exhibited. In 1889, he came to Mount Morris and has been engaged in the college ever since. As a penman, Prof. Weaver has few equals in the state. He also has marked ability in other lines of art, being especially at home with the crayon. He does an extensive mail-order business in card writing, enlarging pictures, etc. Prof. Weaver was married June 13, 1893, to Miss Hattie Brubaker, youngest daughter of Elder and Mrs. D. E. Brubaker, who were residents of the village of Mount Morris. The union has been blessed by three children; viz., Mabel Fawn, born April 18, 1894; Marie Ruth, born January 25, 1897; and Bessie Blanche, born December 23, 1898.

Prof. Heber M. Hays, instructor of Latin and Greek, comes from Virginia. He was born at Moore's Store, in that state, May 7, 1876, being the son of Daniel and Sarah Hays. After the usual common school education, Heber spent four years in the Broadway public schools of his native state. He came to Mount Morris in 1897, and spent two years here. He returned to Virginia in 1899 and entered the State University. By hard work he completed the Latin and Greek in the M. A. course in one year. Upon the withdrawal of Prof. J. E. Miller, at the close of the school year of 1899–1900, the chair of Latin and Greek was tendered to Prof. Hays, who accepted the offer and is filling the position with much credit. While attending college, Prof. Hays exhibited remarkable ability in all lines of work, especially in his chosen line. He is unmarried.

Mrs. Flora E. Teague, professor of Shorthand and Typewriting, is a daughter of David and Susan Kinsey, of Miami county, Ohio, where she was born January 13, 1853. She attended the Covington high school, and also the Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio. During 1890–'91, she was a student of Mount Morris College, and in 1892 was engaged as instructor in the Bible department of the college, also in the Shorthand and Typewriting department, and she has held the position ever since, being one of the most valuable members of the faculty. Mrs. Teague is a prominent church worker, having served as Sunday-school superintendent for many years, and in other capacities. She is thoroughly versed in Bible work and is a most competent instructor in that line of knowledge. May 15, 1873, she was married to John J. Teague, at Greenville, Ohio. She has one daughter, Evelyn, who is the wife of Prof. E. T. Keiser, of Lordsburg College, California.

Miss Josephine Royer, teacher of Elocution and Physical Culture, and matron of Ladies' Hall, is the daughter of Prof. and Mrs. J. G. Royer, and was born near Monticello, Ind., October 9, 1875. Her higher education was gained in Mount Morris College, from which she graduated in 1895, and the Columbian School of Oratory, Chicago. In 1895–'96, she taught Latin, German and English at Lordsburg College, Cal., and the following year was instructor of Elocution at Mount Morris College. For nearly two years after this, she resided at Cando, North Dakota, where she took up a claim of a quarter-section of land. In 1899, she was again engaged as Elocution teacher in her *alma mater*, and she is still holding the position.

Miss Lucia McCosh, of the department of Music is a new member of the faculty of the college, although she served in the same capacity several years ago, when that department was in an undeveloped state. She is a daughter of Dr. John and Elizabeth McCosh, of Mount Morris. She finished the prescribed course of study in the Mount Morris public school, and later completed the Latin-Scientific course in Mount Morris College, graduating in 1897. She also did two years of Seminary German and French. Previous to her work in the college here, she completed a course in shorthand and typewriting in the Omaha (Nebr.) Business College, and spent two years in stenographical work in that city. In 1898, she entered the Chicago Musical College, and graduated in the class of 1900, completing a two years' course in piano, harmony, canon, fugue and musical composition. Her work in this college deserves special mention. She stood second in her class, having a grade of 99, and was one of the fourteen members of the concerto class, selected from among a class of eighty, to play at the final public examination at graduation.

Jesse D. Suter, first assistant in the Commercial department, hails from Franklin Grove. He gained his early education in the Ashton public school, and afterward taught a year there, in the Grammar department. He entered Mount Morris College in 1892, and, with the exception of about a year and a half, has been continuously at work here, graduating in a literary course in 1897 and the two years' Commercial course in 1900. He is now working on his third year in Seminary mathematics and other branches of the Seminary department. Mr. Suter is well fitted for his position in the Commercial department.

Michael W. Emmert, teacher of a number of the common branches, attended Mount Morris College five years, graduating in the Academic department and completing one year Seminary work. He also spent short periods of time in colleges in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and taught school several years. He was elevated to the second degree of the ministry of the Brethren church in 1894, and had charge of a mission at Cedar Rapids nearly three years, giving up that work to accept his present position. He does some Seminary work along with his teaching. August 3, 1899, Mr. Emmert was married to Lizzie Myers, and they have one son, born July 10, 1900.

J. F. Souders became an instructor in the Bible department at the beginning of the fall term of 1900. He comes from Oren, Ohio, near which place he taught school five years. He has attended the Ohio Normal University at Ada, two years at the North Manchester (Ind.) college, and one year at the University of Chicago. He specialized in Bible work and is well skilled in that line. He is a notable addition to the faculty.

Miss Myrtle Royer, instructor of Vocal Music, Oil Painting, Water Color and Pastel, is the youngest daughter of Prof. and Mrs. J. G. Royer, and was born near Monticello, Ind. She graduated from the Academic department of Mount Morris College in 1899, and has also completed one year Seminary work.

Wallace W. Fike, assistant in the Penmanship department, is a native of Milledgeville, Ill. He completed a course under Prof. Weaver in 1898. In the following year he became a Benedict, Miss Ella Haugh being the girl of his choice. Mr. Fike is a gentleman possessed of those traits of character that gain recognition and favor in every walk of life.

Athletics have never occupied the exalted position in Mount Morris College that they do in a great number of the institutions of learning. However, all clean sports that help the student to keep a sound mind in a sound body are not objected to by the management. Tennis courts are laid out on the campus, and, when the weather permits, numerous devotees of the game may be seen dexterously passing the lively balls back and forth over the net. In baseball and football the college has never attained to much reputation,—no doubt because the majority of the students are young people who must make every moment of their time tell, and consequently they cannot afford to spend much of their time in the required

MOUNT MORRIS COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM OF 1899.

practice. Since the school draws most of its students from the farm, an abundance of brawn is always at hand, and, if turned in the right direction, would result in skilled playing, second to none in the county. On this page is shown a view of the football team of 1899. Although organized rather late in the season, the eleven made a very creditable showing. The line-up was as follows: Center, A. B. Keller; right guard, F. D. Miller; left guard, Clyde Bechtelheimer; right tackle, Myron Sager; left tackle, Clayton Gloss; right end, Roy Sweeley; left end, Elmer Shank; right halfback, Verne Roland; left half-back, Earl Clevidence; quarter-back, William Fouke; full-back, Dudley McCosh. Substitutes, Preston Stuckey, Marion Wasson.

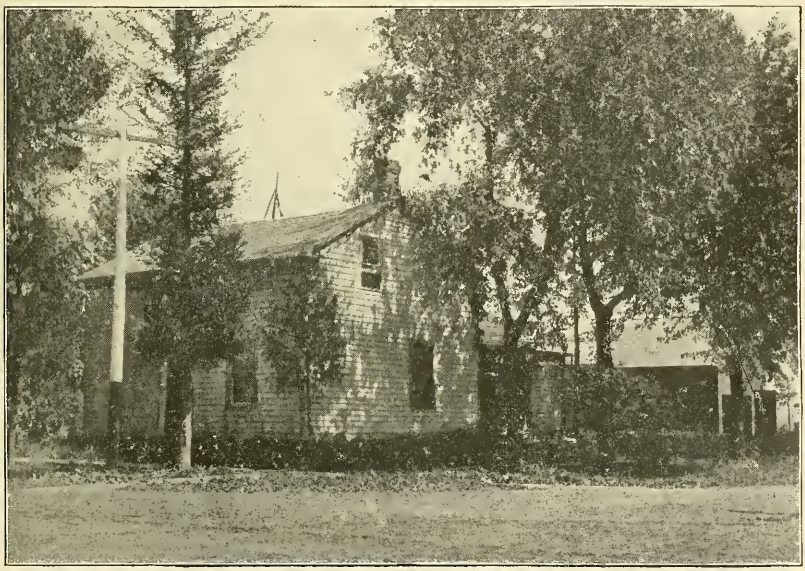
# CHAPTER VII.

## THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

As mentioned already in this volume, the first settlers of Mount Morris township were deeply interested in the cause of education, and were determined that their children should not want for educational privileges. In conformity with these views, Messrs. Hitt and Swingley engaged A. Quimby Allen to accompany them west, when they returned for their families in 1838. Soon after they established a school, with Mr. Allen as teacher, in an old log-house which they erected in the grove about eighty rods southwest of the present residence of William Lohafer. This house was torn down many years ago. It was the first school in this section of the country, and was called the Pine Creek Grammar School, under which rather pretentious title it was the first step toward the founding of Rock River Seminary. The pupils in this school numbered twenty-six, among whom were Margaret C. Hitt, later Mrs. D. J. Pinckney; John W. Hitt, now an influential citizen of Oskaloosa, Iowa; George Hitt, now deceased: Andrew W. Hitt, Joseph Hitt, John Hitt, now Deputy Collector of Customs, Chicago; Robert S. Hitt, of Chicago; Hon. Robert R. Hitt, Martin R. M. Wallace, later a judge of Chicago: Elizabeth Reynolds, Caroline M. Reynolds, Ann E. Ankney, later Mrs. Phelps: Urilla Swingley, John H. Swingley, Upton Swingley, Augustus H. Ankney, afterward a leading citizen of Clinton, Iowa: Ann M. Ankney, later Mrs. William Watts, deceased: Clinton Helm, later an eminent physician of Rockford; James C. T. Phelps, afterward a farmer near Rochelle: James Reynolds, the Worden boys, Richard McClain's children, and Nathaniel A. Ankney and Peter Householder, both residents of Mount Morris today. The school continued under the direction of Mr. Allen for nearly a year, during which time the scheme of locating the Rock River Seminary here was accomplished. As is noted elsewhere, the first term of the seminary opened in November, 1840. In the spring of 1841, the Pine Creek Grammar School was taken under the wing of the seminary, being conducted under the management of Mrs. Fannie Russell, as the Primary department of that institution. For some reason it was discontinued in 1843. N. A. Ankney was one of the boys who attended during the time the school was under the charge of the seminary. The sessions were held in the basement, in one part of which was the culinary department of the seminary. Mr. Ankney remembers that the boys soon found out that the cook produced an extra fine doughnut, and often helped themselves from the supply when there was no one about.

For several years after the discontinuance of the Primary department of the seminary, private schools, generally of a short duration, were con-

ducted at different houses in the village. Mrs. Ellen Trine, of this place, remembers of having attended school at five different places. One was in an old house, then owned by Mrs. Fellows, on the site of the new house now occupied by Mrs. McCosh, on Main street. This was a select school taught by a Miss Bennett. There was another select school taught by Mrs. Stuff, the wife of a Methodist minister, on the lower floor of the old Masonic Hall, on Wesley street, numbered 18 in the engraving on page 51 of this book. The other three which Mrs. Trine attended were the one in Daniel Eversole's house, the Crofts school, and the district school in the old house recently torn down by W. H. Miller. Further mention is made of these three.



*THE DANIEL EVERSOLE HOUSE.*

Another school of which some of our older citizens have a slight memory was one taught by a Miss Frankinberry and held in the basement of Blair's Hotel, now Dr. G. B. McCosh's residence. Henry Sharer remembers a small frame building, standing just west of Dr. McCosh's residence, in which a school was taught at an early day. A. Quimby Allen taught a school in a house during the winter of 1845–'46. Probably a number of other private schools were conducted during the forties and fifties, but little can be learned concerning them.

After the Primary department of the seminary had been closed, one of the first schools to start up for the enlightenment of the juvenile portion of Mount Morris was held in the main part of the residence of Daniel

Eversole, on the corner of McKendrie and Center streets. This house was raised and altered somewhat several years ago. An engraving of the building as it appears today is shown on the preceding page. In this old house school was held for about two years, during which time the following were among the teachers: L. Bell, Major Woodcock and his sister Miss Sarah Woodcock, and James Ransom. There were probably twelve or fifteen pupils in attendance, among whom were N. A. Ankney and Mrs. Ellen Trine. The old house was also used for a number of years as a wagon-shop, and an upstairs room frequently served the Odd Fellows as a lodge-room.

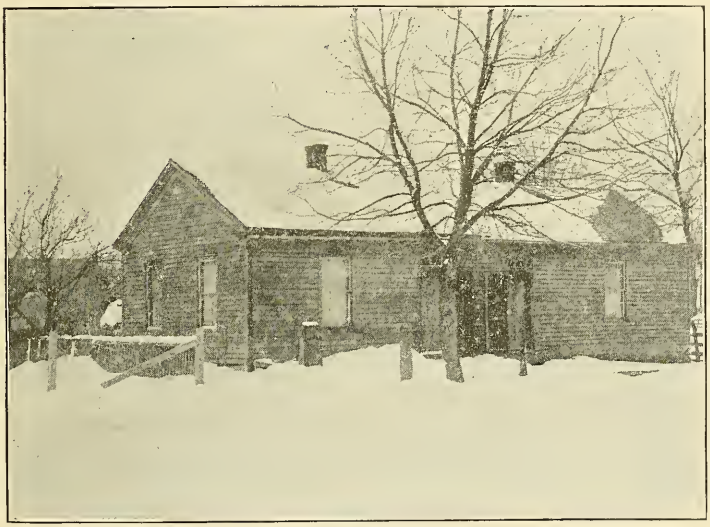
Probably the first school supported by the regular means of taxation was that held in a house on Main street. Later it was occupied as a residence by William H. Miller, who tore it down in the spring of 1900 to make room for his present fine residence. The information concerning the old house is exceedingly obscure, and the little which could be found was gleaned from a score of sources, and may contain some errors. As nearly as can be ascertained, the house was built especially for school purposes either in 1845 or 1846, only a few years after the building of the McFarland house, mention of which is made elsewhere. The building was quite long and narrow, and was divided by a light board partition into two equal apartments, one for the younger and one for the more advanced pupils. Here it was that the great majority of the present middle-aged citizens of Mount Morris gained their education and spent many pleasant hours of their early lives,

"Some upon their books intent.
But more on furtive mischief bent."

The latter part of the quotation was true to a great extent if credit can be given to the laughable stories now related by many of the former pupils. The school continued in the rather hampered quarters afforded by the old house for probably over a score of years. The rooms were very much crowded at the last, so much so that in the summer time visitors would be astonished to find boys sitting on the stove for want of better seats. During these years hundreds of people with whom all are familiar attended the school, and many of them are now residents of our village.

Thomas C. Williams was one of the mischievious boys who attended the school; and one day, probably for amusement during some tiresome hour, he copied the names of every pupil attending at that time into his spelling book, one name along the inside margin of each page. With the exception of three or four all of the names are easily legible, and are as follows: Frank Mumma, William McCoy, William H. Miller, William Newcomer, Arthur Newcomer, Harley Hedges, Benj. Hedges, Milton Neff, David McCoy, Lewis Davis, Frank Knodle, Edwin Allen, Samuel Rohrer, Edwin Newcomer, Merritt Pinckney, John Warburton, Edwin Knodle, Frank Baker, Douglas Hedges, Charles Knodle, James Wertz, C. Farwell, Frank Black, Otho Davis, Clayton Startzman, Ed. Startzman, Calvin Middlekauff, David Warburton, John McCosh, Scott McCosh, Melvin Knodle, Ed. Sharp, "Den" Householder, George Coffman, Thomas Williams, Ella

Funk (now Mrs. H. J. Griswold), Alice Pond (now Mrs. Knodle, of Aurora), Ida Newcomer (Mrs. Knodle), Lottie Rohrer (Mrs. William Newcomer), Ida Pinckney (Mrs. Ed. Butt, now dead), Eliza Ohr (Mrs. Forbes, of Iowa), Libbie Allen (Mrs. R. D. McClure), Arbanna Midddlekauff (Mrs. N. E. Buser), Follie Brayton (Mrs. W. M. Gilbert, State Center, Iowa), Lillie Brayton (Mrs. W. H. Miller, Alpena, S. Dak.), Sarah Ohr (Mrs. Follet), Josie Hays (Mrs. Wise), Laura Neff (first wife of A. S. McCoy). Josie Cheney (deceased), Mary Hedges (deceased), Lizzie Guy (now of Franklin Grove), Susie Typer. Besides the foregoing list a number of others might be noted: Mattie Middlekauff, Charles Allen, Mary Allen, Robert Q. Allen, Cashus Crowell, A. W. Brayton, John Davis, Solomon Nikirk, Thomas and James Neff,



*THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING IN MOUNT MORRIS.*

[This building was occupied for many years as a residence by W. H. Miller, who removed it in the spring of 1900, to make way for a more modern dwelling.]

Waldo and George Cheney, Lillie and Jennie Knodle, the McCoy and the Stewart boys, and others too numerous to mention.

A complete record of the teachers who taught this school is not obtainable. Among them were A. Quimby Allen, Mr. Streeter, Mr. Shultnee, Mr. Cross, John Page, with Hannah Cheney (who later married Mr. Page) as assistant; Holly Allen (father of Charles H. Allen, township assessor), James Allen (a brother of Holly Allen), Enoch Coffman, Miss Sibyl Sammis (later married to Andrew Hitt), Miss Helen Coffman, Miss Hattie Little (now Mrs. Samuel Middour), Miss Christina Coffman, Daniel Rohrer, Morris Gaffin, Maggie Fouke, Miss Miles, and the Misses Frances and Flor-

ence Hoverland (who later married Charles Crawford and Dr. B. G. Stephens respectively).

Miss Frances Hoverland took charge of the senior room in 1864, and a little later prevailed upon the school board to allow her to write to the east for her sister, Florence, to take the other room, in place of Miss Miles who could not handle the mischievous urchins. These two ladies continued teaching in the old house until the present stone structure was built. Frances, now Mrs. Crawford, is still one of the present corps of teachers, having taught during the entire time except for several years spent in schools in Milledgeville and elsewhere. Thus she has had a hand in the teaching of nearly every boy and girl who has gone through our school, for the remarkably long period of not less than thirty-five years. Children whose parents were disciplined by her in the old schoolhouse have passed, and are still passing, under her instruction. Her sister Florence has almost a parallel record, having ceased teaching in our public schools but a few years ago.

Many interesting reminiscences can be related concerning the old school days in the Miller house. As is invariably the case, there were numerous mischievous spirits among the boys and girls, and their pranks are still remembered by those who were contemporaneous with those "glorious old times." Mrs. Crawford relates a story of how two boys determined to have a vacation from study by hiding all day in the loft, which was merely a little cubby-hole, with neither light nor ventilation. When she arrived at the schoolhouse in the morning—a hot summer day—some of the scholars were building a roaring fire in the stove, and, when questioned, significantly put their fingers to their lips and looked toward the loft. She took in the situation at once and helped the joke along by allowing the boys to remain in the loft and keeping up a good fire to make a healthy heat in the usually hot apartment above. At noon Mrs. Crawford and her sister went through the form of leaving the schoolhouse by walking heavily to the door and opening and closing it, but remaining inside. Imagine the looks on the boys' faces as they slid down from the loft and found them waiting! No further punishment was deemed necessary.

When Holly Allen was teaching, Ed. Allen, now a successful auctioneer of Mount Morris, was an attendant. One day when about to be punished for some misdemeanor, he made a dash for the door and down the road. The teacher, however, proved the better athlete and succeeded in running him down and bringing him back, which caused some entertainment for the school, the nature of which may easily be surmised. C. C. Crowell was a pretty lively scholar, and on more than one occasion had to stand on one leg for punishment. He remembers that one noon the boys knocked off a half dozen yards of plastering and threw the chunks about the room until the white dust obscured the view. Penalty—a licking and three weeks in at recess.

The partition between the two rooms was made of loose boards, which the boys could easily remove on special occasions. At the end of every term the school gave an exhibition, when miscellaneous programs were

participated in by the scholars, and on such occasions the partition was removed. Mrs. Crawford often received fine presents from the scholars at these exhibitions, and still possesses and prizes them very highly.

Besides being an old schoolhouse, the Miller building has the honor of once serving as a meetinghouse. Immediately after it was built, the Rev. N. J. Stroh, who was stationed at Oregon, came up every two weeks and preached in it for the Lutherans. The church records are lost, but there is reason to believe that it was used more or less by the Lutherans for a place of worship until the new brick churchhouse, now belonging to the Christian denomination, was built in 1854. Rev. A. A. Trimper preached in the old house and probably Rev. Nicholas Burkett. Later, in the sixties, long after the brick churchhouse had been built, a number of the Lutherans,—Rev. Rufus Smith, Daniel Sprecher, some of the Hedges, and others,—became dissatisfied with the progress of affairs in the church and a split occurred, and the bolters started to hold meetings of their own in the old schoolhouse. This branch existed for a time but soon died out.

In 1882, William H. Miller purchased the house, and after residing in it for eighteen years, erected in its place a fine modern residence.

Another old school building was the McFarland house, which stood on Mulberry street, and for many years was occupied as a residence by Mrs. Susan Heminger, until the spring of 1900, when it was purchased by Elder D. L. Miller, and torn down to make room for his elegant residence.

The old house was built in the spring of 1841 by Samuel McFarland, of Boonsboro, Md., and at the time of its erection Mount Morris was yet in its extreme infancy. Mr. McFarland moved into the house after its completion and resided there with his family for a number of years. In the meantime a number of other houses were built and immigrants began to come in rapidly from the east. Among the arrivals during the summer after the house was completed was a party in which were Jonathan and Emanuel Knodle, of Boonsboro, Md., who brought with them a complete printing outfit. They rented the north wing of the McFarland house, and there began the publication of the *Rock River Register*, the first paper printed in Ogle county, a complete account of which is given in the chapter upon the press. After the removal of the printing-office from the house in 1842, the old house is lost sight of for nearly twenty years, but it is naturally supposed that it was simply used as a residence, and occupied by probably a dozen different families for shorter or longer periods. In 1853 it came into the possession of a schoolteacher, an old lady by the name of Crofts—Mrs. Emeline Crofts, mother of the Rev. George W. Crofts, who later had charge of the Congregational church at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. In about the year 1860, or possibly earlier, Mrs. Crofts started a private school in the front room of the old house, using the remainder of it for living rooms. Owing to the crowded condition of the public school, then being held in the Miller house, she soon gathered in twenty-five or thirty scholars, mostly from among the smaller children, and proceeded to "enlighten" them. Many of our present citizens received their first instruction under her. Among them are A. W. Brayton,

William Stewart, Mrs. John Walker, and a score of others. Mr. Brayton remembers her rather novel method of distributing reward cards. The room formerly used as the *Register* office was used by her as a bedroom, and there on her bed she would spread out the reward cards, of which there were some very nice ones for the brightest students, and others not quite so pleasing. After they had been arranged, the best scholar was allowed to go into the room and take his choice; after his return, the second best took his turn, and so on until the least deserving carried away the leavings. William Stewart remembers that she was very severe in her methods of punishment, but failed to mention, however, if it was because he was particularly mischievous or not, that his memory was so keen on that point. One of her ways of bringing culprits to justice was to come up behind the victim and getting him by the forelock pull him upon his tip-toes until he expected his scalp to part with his cranium. Another method, for many years a favorite among "schoolmarms," was to get a grip on that convenient handle, the ear, and twist it until the offender was glad to choose between losing his ear or coming to time. The dunce cap also came into frequent use. Nevertheless she was a good teacher and taught many a "young idea how to shoot." Her school continued in the old house until after the war, and was discontinued probably in 1866 or 1867. Mrs. Crofts left the village about that time with her son, Lee Crofts, and went west.

After the close of the Crofts school, the old house sunk into obscurity. It was simply used as a residence and saw many changes and a variety of inmates. And now, in the year 1900, the closing year of the nineteenth century, it has gone down to its fate, having watched over the varying destinies of the town and its intelligent people from almost its earliest period. A few more years and it will be forgotten forever. Thus it is with both man and his works.

An examination of the deed discloses the interesting fact that the house changed hands no less than eighteen times. The two lots, upon one of which it stood, and which have always been transferred with it, are lots 13 and 14 of block 16. They were included in the original patent for an 80-acre plot from the United States Government to Anthony Pitzer, and later became the property of Rock River Seminary. The later transfers were as follows:

1843...R. R. Seminary to Samuel McFarland
1844...Samuel McFarland to B. Rosenbeck
1847.....B. Rosenbeck to Jacob Hiestand
1847.....Jacob Hiestand to David Gloss
1847.....David Gloss to John Martin
1851.....John Martin to Enoch Wood
1853.....Enoch Wood to Emeline Crofts
1855.....Emeline Crofts to F. G. Petrie
1857.....F. G. Petrie to J. A. Routzhan
1859.....J. A. Routzhan to Emeline Crofts
1876.....Emeline Crofts to Jno. M. Smith
1879.....Jno. M. Smith to D. B. Kenne
1881.....D. B. Kenne to David Moore
1882.....David Moore to John D. Teeter
1884.....John D. Teeter to Susan Heminger
1900.....Susan Heminger to D. L. Miller

It will be noticed that three transfers were made in one year,—1847. Mrs. Heminger was by far the longest occupant of the house, having lived in it about sixteen years. A portion of the old house was moved to

the south part of town, and is being used as a barn by William Domer. For a view of this historic old house see the chapter dealing with the press.

Before tracing the village schools further, it would be well to make mention of the old schoolhouse built by the father of Dr. Isaac Rice. It was simply a roughly-constructed log-house, situated north of town, and its history dates back almost to the beginning of the Pine Creek Grammar School. Isaac Rice, then a youth of eighteen years, was one of the first teachers in the school. Reuben Marshall was a pupil at this institution of learning, and remembers the house to have been an exceedingly rough structure. It was built in the hollow north of the Jacob Rice residence and east of the cemetery. One winter there was considerable trouble between the teacher and the pupils, and finally the large boys tore the old building down, piled the logs on a heap, and burned them. Mr. Marshall remembers that one day several dogs ran a deer out of the woods near the schoolhouse, and there being a crust on the snow which the animal's sharp hoofs penetrated, the boys easily headed it upon an expanse of snow and knocked it on the head with an axe. The incident was quite thrilling. Among the teachers in this school were Joshua and Isaac Rice, John A. Wagner, Alfred Brown, John W. Ritz, John O'Conner, Julia Holcombe, Charles F. Lynn, and Robert Deppenham.

In the year 1868 the present large stone schoolhouse, located on block 5 of the Botanical Addition, was completed at a cost of $10,000. At first there were but four rooms in the building and only three of these were used, there being but three teachers and three departments. Miss Frances Hoverland (now Mrs. Crawford) who had been principal in the old building was again elected and served in that capacity from 1868 to 1872,—the first four years that the new building was in use. Miss Florence Hoverland taught during the first two years, until the time of her marriage to Dr. B. G. Stephens. The other teachers during these four years were the Misses Cornelia A. Sterns, May Quigley, and Olive Antisdel. Miss Lottie Rohrer (now Mrs. W. A. Newcomer) was an advanced student and heard a number of classes for the principal.

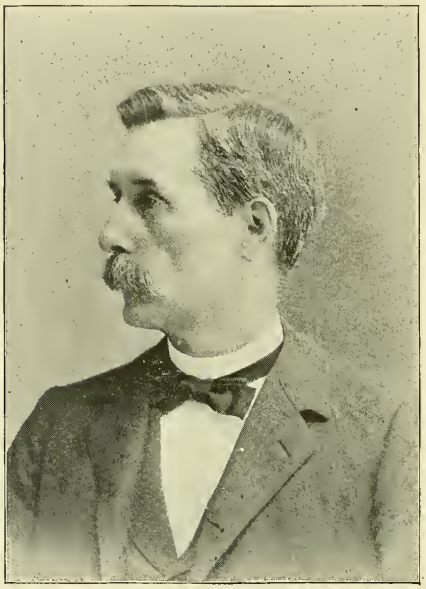
Prof. Joseph M. Piper, the present County Superintendent of Schools, succeeded Mrs. Crawford and remained principal four years. The teachers during these four years,—1872 to 1876,—as nearly as Mr. Piper can remember, were as follows: Frankie Kosier, Ella Fisher, Miss Eichholts, John P. Hand (now a supreme judge of Illinois), Helen A. Night, John Hammond (remembered by his red hair), Lottie Waggoner (daughter of Prof. Joseph Waggoner, first principal of Rock River Seminary), and Addie McKean.

About this time a fourth department was added and the number of teachers raised to four. Horace G. Kauffman was elected principal in the fall of 1876, with Holly C. Clark in the Grammar department; Ella Fisher, Intermediate, and Lottie Waggoner, Primary.

The teachers from 1877 to 1900 are herewith given, together with the graduates—when there were any. The first graduating class received their

diplomas in the spring of 1878, at the close of Mr. Kauffman's second year. Before that time the scholars attended only until something turned up for them to do, and they left whenever they pleased, without completing any prescribed course of study. It was during this year that the first course of study was outlined and printed in pamphlet form. In the following the principal will be mentioned first, then the teachers of the Grammar, Intermediate, and Primary departments in their respective order:

1877–'78.—H. G. Kauffman, H. C. Clark, Mrs. Rebecca Kauffman, Lottie Waggoner. Graduates, Susie McCosh (Mrs. C. H. Sharer), Eva Davis, Fred. Knodle, Harry Little, Charles Davis.



JOSEPH M. PIPER,
County Superintendent of Schools.

1878–'79.—H. G. Kauffman, H. C. Clark, Mrs. Kauffman, Helen A. Night. Graduates, Laura Hedges (Mrs. Swift, of DeKalb), Lillie Farwell (Mrs. Harry Cushing), Mary Weller (Mrs. George Shryock), Clara Clevidence (Mrs. Ira Wingert), Clara Noel, Alfonzo Newcomer.

1879–'80.—Miss Virginia Brown, Mrs. Carey, (name of Intermediate teacher not obtainable), Mrs. Crawford. Graduates, Martin Rohrer, Jr., Minnie Rohrer, Lillie Myers, Jessie Knodle, Georgie Bixler, Jennie Weller (Mrs. Hanawalt), Anna Thomas, Viola Greger.

1880–'81.—Miss Virginia Brown, Mrs. Carey, Hattie Barlow, Mrs. Crawford. About this time the higher rooms of the school began to enter into a state of disorder, which gradually became worse through the two succeeding years and culminated in the almost complete disorganization of the highest room under the principalship of Prof. Burbank, mention of which is made later. It appears that Miss Brown made no attempt to graduate a class in this, the second, year of her principalship. Those who were in the highest class and would have graduated at the end of the year were U. C. Nye, Verne Clevidence Phelps, Alice Lookabaugh Fager, Joshua Ohr, Nettie Long, Mollie Skinner, Arthur Nalley, and probably several others.

1881–'82.—B. Earl Berry, Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Crawford. As principal Prof. Berry did not prove to be a much better disciplinarian than Miss Brown, and the school did not prosper. There was no graduat-

MOUNT MORRIS PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING.

ing class at the end of this year. Among those who were in attendance in the advance class were Ida Funk Fitz, Isabel Funk Fitz, Hattie Davis, Mabel Holsinger, Lucia McCosh, Flora Thomas Shellenberger, Parnell Newcomer, Myrtle Rine Miller, Frank Palmer, Ralph Trine, William Startzman, Howard Long, and Cyrus Newcomer.

1882–'83.—The teaching force remained the same as the year previous, except that Clara Middlekauff succeeded Mrs. Berry in the Grammar department. In Prof. Berry's room the order became worse and the attendance smaller, so much so that at the end of the year there was again no pretence toward the graduation of the advance class, which consisted partly of the class of the preceding year.

1883–'84.—During the four years of Miss Brown's and Prof. Berry's principalship, the disorder and confusion of the advance rooms became so flagrant that the attention of the school board was finally drawn to the matter, and they resolved to hire a principal who could restrain the mischievous natures of the pupils and again bring the work up to a standard of excellence. Prof. Charles Burbank, of Byron, was the man engaged, but the board erred in their selection, as the sequel will show. With the intention of quelling the turbulent spirits by ruling with an iron hand, Prof. Burbank entered the schoolroom the first morning and injudiciously informed the pupils who had assembled that he "could lick the whole school with one hand tied behind his back," and that dire consequences would follow any attempt at disorder or insubordination. These tactics, as many will remember, only aroused the ire of the boys, and the order, or rather disorder, was much worse than previously. The first serious trouble arose one day when Prof. Burbank left his room and went into the Grammar room, to settle several youngsters for his wife, who had charge there. He had not proceeded far when the boys made a rush for him, seized him on all sides and gave him an old-fashioned drubbing. While this was in progress, John Seibert ran out into the front hall, and, opening the door of the high school, shouted: "Come on, boys; we've got him!" which added to the excitement. Finally, the members of the school board arrived and settled the disturbance. A few days later the pupils of the professor's own room became incensed at some inconsistency on his part, and a "free-for-all" was again precipitated. Heavy double slates, erasers, books, and all manner of missiles were hurled at the unfortunate pedagogue. Most of the boys were aggressive, but a few of the older ones, Z. O. Doward principally, tried to keep the bellicose faction from injuring the professor. In the scuffle the organ was thrown from the platform and badly damaged. The besieged instructor finally escaped to his desk and hastily penned a note to the directors and dispatched one of the more timid scholars with it. It is remembered that after the missive had been written, upon the bottom of the sheet he stamped a large blotch of blood from a deep cut in his hand, caused by a slate, to impress the directors with the urgency of the case. Trouble frequently arose after this, but Prof. Burbank worried through the remainder of the year. It is said that to insure his safety the school board accompanied him to the depot when

he left town. The boys and girls who attended that year are often heard talking over those "stirring times." At the end of the year no graduating exercises were held, but diplomas were granted to Carrie Weller, May McCoy and Maude Newcomer.

1884–'85.—To build up the school after the exciting times of the year previous, the board hired Horace G. Kauffman, who had proved a good disciplinarian during his former term of service. During the year the Primary department, which included about one hundred pupils, was divided into two sections,—the First Primary and the Second Primary,—Mrs. Crawford being engaged to teach the latter, and Miss Lillie Farwell, the former. The other teachers were Mrs. Kauffman and Mrs. Stephens. The graduates were H. E. Newcomer, Emily Newcomer (Mrs. J. L. Rice), Fannie Stephens, and Grace McCoy (Mrs. Frank Coffman).

1885–'86.—Mr. Kauffman was re-engaged as principal, but being in poor health, went east and left the work in the hands of Mrs. Kauffman. The other teachers were Karen Hollinger, assistant principal; Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Crawford, and Miss Farwell. Class of '86, Daisy Kemp, Mattie Newcomer, Minnie Stouffer, Lilian Hess, Dollie Stephens, Bert Clevidence, Eugene Thomas.

1886–'87.—During the summer of 1886 the addition on the west side of the building was made, to be used as a recitation room. Later, the Primary department was moved into this addition and the principal's room divided into two parts, forming what are now the high school and Grammar rooms. The teachers were H. G. Kauffman, Mrs. Rebecca Kauffman, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Crawford, and Miss Farwell. Class of '87, Claude Householder and Daniel Brogunier.

1887–'88.—Teachers, same as preceding year, except that Miss Elsie West took Miss Farwell's place. Mrs. Kauffman resigned the assistant principalship at the end of the winter term, and Emery I. Neff completed the year in her place. Class of '88, Nettie Kinsey, Ada Mumma, Oliver Sprecher.

1888–'89.—Teachers engaged, same as preceding year. Mr. Kauffman was again compelled to leave the school on account of ill-health, and with the consent of the board left the principalship in the hands of Alfonzo G. Newcomer, who had just graduated from Cornell University. Mr. Newcomer proved to be a very able instructor. His graduating class consisted of Minnie Kable, Ida Castle, Ollie Smith, and Morris Newcomer.

1889–'90.—Teachers, T. E. DeButts, Alice J. Boone, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Crawford, Fannie Stephens. Class of '90, Solomon Avey, Allie Kable, Minerva Eversole, Edward C. Thomas.

1890–'91.—Teachers, same as preceding year. Class of '91, Joseph Granger, Bert Thomas, Benton Kinsey, Kittie Sprecher.

1891–'92.—Teachers, C. W. Egner, Antoinette Shryock, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Crawford, Fannie Stephens. Class of '92, Anita Holsinger, Lulu Kable, Pearl Williams, Lulu Koontz, Mae Ankney, William Myers, George Toms, Hugh Stephens, Bessie Griswold, Benj. Price, Grace Hanstine.

1892–'93.—Teachers, same as preceding year. Class of '93, George Schelling, Pearl Buser, Emma Plate.

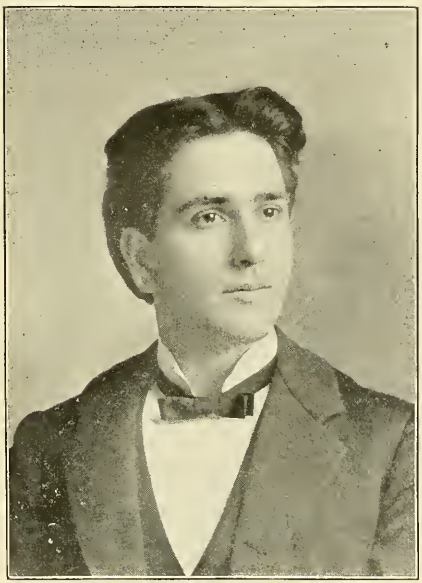
1893–'94.—Teachers of previous year again hired. Class of '94, Louis Brayton, Maude Thomas, Earl Householder, Lucy Buck.

1894–'95.—Teachers, E. E. Winders, Antoinette Shryock, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Crawford, Fannie Stephens. Class of '95, Lee Stonebraker, Anna Bollinger, Agnes McDannel.

1895–'96.—Teachers, E. E. Winders, Lydia Pierce, Ella Rohrer, Mrs. Crawford, Mary McClure. Class of '96, Burton Strock, Harvey Kable, Harry Kable, May Driscoll, Maude Rowe, Reuben Marshall, Riner Clark, Edward Jimmerson, Roy Brayton.

1896–'97. — Teachers, E. E. Winders, Mary McClure, Lilian Hess, Mrs. Crawford, Ella Rohrer. Class of '97, Ada Allen, Gertrude Eshelman, Amanda Lutz, William Pool, Melvin Householder, Robert Newcomer, Roy Jackson, Bessie Marshall, Minnie Longman.

1897–'98. — Teachers, A. E. Elmore, Mary McClure, Lilian Hess, Mrs. Crawford, Ella Rohrer. Class of '98, Mary Nazarene, Chas. Peacock, Martha McClure, Allie Williams, Earl Clevidence, Pearl Rank, Lura Neff.



PROF. S. A. LONG.

1898–'99. — Teachers, S. A. Long, Mary McClure, Lilian Hess, Mrs. Crawford, Lulu Kable. During the latter part of the year, at the suggestion of the energetic principal, Prof. S. A. Long, the board lengthened the course of study a year, making nearly three years of high school work. Owing to this fact there was no graduating class. A fine laboratory was added to the school during the year, Prof. Long soliciting the money for the same.

1899–1900.—S. A. Long, Mary McClure, Lilian Hess, Mrs. Crawford, Lulu Kable, Ella Rohrer. Class of '00, Vernon Rees, Ray Allen, Mina Middour, Bessie McNett, Earl Thomas, Florine Scott. In June the course of study was revised according to the action of the board the year previous, and published in pamphlet form.

The total enrollment of the school is nearly two hundred. Those in the third year high school class, who will graduate as the class of 1901, if

they continue their work are Ida Nazarene, Harry Rowe, Jesse Allen, and Jelis McCoy.

Considering the fact that Mount Morris is a college town and many pupils of the public school stop attending before graduation to enroll at the college, the public school course is an exceptionally good one. Following is the course of study for the three high school years:

FIRST YEAR.

| *Fall Term* | *Winter Term* | *Spring Term* |
|---|---|---|
| Arithmetic | Arithmetic | Algebra |
| English | English | English |
| U. S. History | U. S. History / Civics | Civics |
| Physiology | Physiology | Physiology |
| Orthography | Orthography | Orthography |
| Penmanship | Penmanship | Penmanship |
| Drawing | Drawing | Drawing |
| Music | Music | Music |

SECOND YEAR.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Algebra | Algebra | Algebra |
| English | English | Bookkeeping |
| Latin | Latin | Latin |
| Physical Geography | Physical Geography | Botany |
| Drawing | Drawing | Drawing |
| Music | Music | Music |

THIRD YEAR.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Geometry | Geometry | Geometry |
| General History | General History | General History |
| Latin | Latin | Latin |
| Physics | Physics | Physics |
| Drawing | Drawing | Reviews |
| Music | Music | Reviews |

At the present time the school is in its most flourishing condition. The corps of teachers consists of Prof. George A. Jacobs, principal; Miss Della Ione Billig, assistant principal; Miss Lilian Hess, Grammar department; Mrs. Crawford, Intermediate; Lulu Kable, Second Primary; Miss Jennie Harley, First Primary. A fine half-tone engraving of the foregoing instructors appears on the opposite page. Brief sketches of their educational careers will be of interest.

Prof. George A. Jacobs, principal of the Mount Morris public schools, was born June 25, 1871, at Linden, Wis., and is the son of Robert and Nancy Jacobs. He spent his early school days in the school of his native town. At the age of fourteen he moved with his parents to Livingston, Wis., where he entered the public school, graduating in 1888. After this he entered the Northern Indiana Normal School, from which institution he graduated in 1897, having spent several intervening years teaching country schools. At graduation, as a result of four solid years of study, Mr. Jacobs received diplomas from four different courses; viz., the Normal, Business, Phonographic, and Scientific. He also received the degree of Bachelor of Science. In the fall of 1897 he was elected to the principalship of the Carbon Hill (Illinois) school and filled the position with satisfaction to all concerned for three years, until he was selected, during the summer of 1900, as principal of the Mount Morris public schools. Prof. Jacobs was married August 17, 1899, to Miss H. Elizabeth Livingston, of Livingston, Wisconsin.

PROF. GEO. A. JACOBS, Principal
MISS LILIAN MESS
GRAMMAR DEPT.
MRS. FRANCES E. CRAWFORD, Inter. Dept.
MISS JENNIE HARLEY, First Primary
MISS LULU KABLE, Second Primary

MOUNT MORRIS PUBLIC SCHOOL FACULTY OF 1900-'01.

Miss D. Ione Billig, assistant principal, is a native of Lincoln township, being the daughter of Samuel and Emma Billig. After gaining a primary education in the country school near her home, she entered a private school, taught by Mrs. Dr. Winston, in Forreston, and was a pupil under that lady's instruction about three years. In 1889, when but fifteen years of age, she entered the Wisconsin State University, at Madison, and enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest student that ever entered the institution up to that time. After three years of study, she returned to her home and taught one year of school near Brookville. The following year she again entered college, this time at the Columbian School of Oratory, Chicago, graduating in 1895. In the fall of 1898 she began teaching at the West Branch school, in Lincoln township, and held the position two years, until her election as assistant principal in the Mount Morris public schools, in the summer of 1900.

Miss Lilian Hess, Grammar department, is the daughter of Willoughby and Mary Hess, and was born in Leaf River township. Her educational career commenced in the country schools near her home, and was afterward continued in a school in Winnebago county, where her parents moved. Later they came to Mount Morris and Miss Hess became a student in the public schools of this place, graduating with the class of 1886. She then spent two years in Mount Morris College, preparing for the pedagogical profession. She taught her first term of school at the Stonebraker schoolhouse, north of town. Four or five years were spent in teaching in country schools, one of which was in the Primary department of the Adeline school. In the summer of 1896 she was elected a member of the Mount Morris public school faculty, and is now serving her fifth year,—three years in the Intermediate department and, including the present year, two years in the Grammar department.

Mrs. Frances E. Crawford, Intermediate department, has followed the pedagogical profession in Mount Morris possibly longer than than any two other teachers either in the public schools or college, her term of service extending over more than a score of years. Mrs. Crawford is a native of New York, her birth-place being near Springville, Erie county. She secured her early education in a district school, and at the age of fifteen entered the Griffith Institute at Springville, spending two years of diligent study there. The following year she entered upon her long career of teaching, when but seventeen years of age. She taught three terms in the country near Springville and then came to Ogle county, Illinois, first engaging for three terms in the Byron school. In 1864, she came to Mount Morris and acted as principal of the village school seven years, serving the last four in the new building, as mentioned elsewhere in this chapter. Her next teaching was at Egan City, where she passed two winters, and later at Baileyville, where she was engaged three years and one term, part of the time serving as principal of the school. Returning to Mount Morris in 1879, she was re-engaged in the village schools, and has held the position continuously since that time, a period of twenty-one years. This entire time has been spent in primary work, either in the First or Second Primary departments, with the exception of the past two years, during which time she has had charge of the Intermediate department. One of Mrs. Crawford's chief recommendations as an educator is her ability to keep order,—a quality absolutely necessary in the education of the little folks.

Miss Lulu Kable, of the Second Primary department, is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Kable, of Mount Morris. She entered the public schools of this place when she arrived at the prescribed age. She graduated at the age of fourteen, and then spent a few terms in Mount Morris College. She obtained a teacher's certificate as a result of this work, and began teaching north of the village when she was but seventeen years of age. In 1897, she again entered Mount Morris College, and graduated from the Teachers' course with the class of 1898. She was immediately engaged as First Primary teacher in the Mount Morris public schools, and the following year was advanced to the Second Primary room. The present year, 1900-'01, is her fifth year in the work of teaching.

Miss Jennie Harley, First Primary teacher, is the daughter of Jacob K. and Sarah Harley, of Harleysville, Pa. Besides the public schools, she attended Brunner Seminary, at Lansdale, Pa., one year, and the State Normal, at West Chester, one term.

Before coming to Mount Morris, in 1896, she had nine years of practical experience in teaching in Pennsylvania, four years in country schools near Harleysville and five years in Secondary and Primary work in the graded schools at Lansdale. Since coming to this place she has spent a short time in the college. During the summer of 1900 she was elected to her present position.

Prominent among the men who, in the capacity of school director, had to do with the destiny of the schools and served well in the cause of education in Mount Morris, stands Henry J. Farwell, whose portrait appears on this page. Mr. Farwell served as a member of the school board more than a score of years,—longer than any two other members. He was president of the board from 1865 to 1890, a term of twenty-five years, and during that time exerted untiring efforts for the school's welfare and advancement. He was instrumental in building the present stone edifice, an improvement very painfully necessary at the time of its erection. It appears that there were a number of non-enterprising tax-payers in the district who opposed the plan and Mr. Farwell did all in his power to lessen the expense. When the need of shade trees in the school yard was felt, he himself drove to Pine Creek, dug up a number of young pine trees along the bluffs and transplanted them in the regular rows in which they at present appear. Mr. Farwell was president of the board at the time of his death in 1890.

H. J. FARWELL.

Previous to 1895 there were elected three school directors, one each year, with terms of three years, but in that year, in compliance with the law providing that all districts with over one thousand inhabitants must have a board of education with a president and six members, the new arrangement was adopted, and since that time a president and two members are elected each year. The present board consists of R. D. McClure, president; A. M. Newcomer, clerk; J. L. Rice, G. W. Deppen, I. W. Marshall, C. E. Price and R. C. McCredie. R. D. McClure has served as president of the board since its organization in 1895, and was a director for about eight years previous. Next to H. J. Farwell, he has served the school for the longest period.

Other men who were directors for a considerable length of time are Oliver Swingley, H. C. Clark, Dr. Isaac Rice, H. G. Kauffman, and many whose names are not obtainable.

The present school board is composed of men who in every way are in sympathy with the strong educational sentiment which prevades the community. They have taken the opportunity to improve the standard of work in the school by the careful selection of teachers and do not hesitate to sanction and approve any plausible suggestion which may be made for improvement in any line. They meet in business session on the first Friday of each month.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE VILLAGE PRESS.

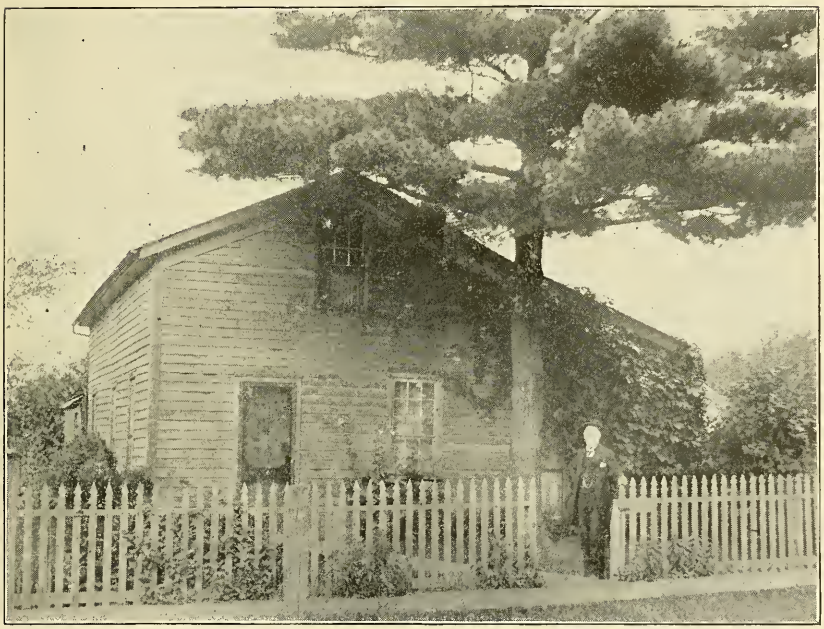
It is generally conceded that the printing press is one of the most potent factors in molding the destiny of a newly-settled territory, but it is also a fact, however, that it is among those the least appreciated by the people when called upon to sustain it. The first settlers of Mount Morris township had no access to daily papers, and even weeklies very rarely found their way into their hands; for mails were irregular and infrequent, the mode of transferring them being by horseback, and very often that means failed. The only papers taken by the people during the early days were possibly a few eastern journals and some religious papers.

The great esteem in which all educational interests were held by the first settlers of Ogle county is evidenced by the fact that when the country was yet almost a wilderness the corner-stone of "Old Sandstone," or Rock River Seminary, was laid,—on the fourth day of July, 1839. Consequently it was thought generally in the east that among a people so thoroughly imbued with the importance of educational advantages, a newspaper would find a ready support, but this estimate, as the sequel will show, proved a serious mistake to the projectors of the first newspaper venture in Mount Morris. The principals in this enterprise were Jonathan and Emanuel Knodle, of Washington county, Md., the former as publisher and the latter as editor of the proposed paper. These gentlemen purchased the press and materials with which a small paper entitled *The Casket* was printed at Boonsboro, Md., and on the sixteenth day of July, 1841, the former accompanied by his family and with their household goods, including the said printing outfit, they set out in wagons for Mount Morris. When they arrived at Wheeling, W. Va., finding their loads too heavy to be drawn by the teams, the press and printing materials were shipped from there by boat around to Savanna, Illinois.

In a letter dated Peoria, Ill., October 27, 1841, Emanuel Knodle wrote to his brother, Samuel, in the east: "We found it necessary to go to St. Louis for some type, rules, composing sticks, etc. When I left Mount Morris, on the twenty-fifth, we had not yet heard of our press and type, but think that by this time they should have come around to Savanna." A later letter shows that the press, etc., were received from Peru, instead of Savanna. The water being low in the Mississippi the boats could not ascend as far as Savanna. December 8 the outfit was moved into a house built west of the Seminary property by Samuel McFarland during the spring previous. This house, of which a half-tone appears here-

with, stood until the present year, 1900, when it was partly torn down, and the remainder moved to the south part of town where it is now being used as a barn by William Domer. Further is said concerning it in the previous chapter upon the public schools. The shed-like addition on the right hand is the part in which the printing-office was established.

During the remainder of the month of December, Messrs. Emanuel and Jonathan Knodle, and also Peter, Jacob and Joseph Knodle, and Joseph Hooper, were hard at work to "bring order out of chaos," which was the condition in which the material was found after its long and



*THE FIRST PRINTING-OFFICE IN OGLE COUNTY.*

A building which played many parts in the history of Mount Morris.

perilous journey by land and water. Composition rollers had to be made and a hundred and one other articles supplied, which in so new a country were beset with almost insurmountable difficulties, the crowning trouble of all being that the bed of the press was broken when the attempt was made to put it in place. This press was known as the "Ramage" and was nearly the exact style of that used by Benj. Franklin, which now stands in the National Gallery at Washington.

All obstacles in the way of this pioneer newspaper enterprise were at last overcome, however, and on the first of January, 1842, the first num-

ber of the *Rock River Register* was issued from the old house and distributed to its patrons, thus going on record as the first newspaper published in Ogle county. It was a small five-column sheet, printed one page at a time, on a very inferior quality of paper. Its motto, suggested by Rev. T. S. Hitt, was, "We hope to be recognized as fellow-laborers in the noble work of enlightening the human mind." The terms were "$2.50 in advance; or $3, if not paid in advance." A number of articles from the *Register*, which give an idea of the condition of the country when the paper was being published, are reprinted in a preceding chapter upon the early history of Mount Morris.

Mr. Emanuel Knodle, the first editor of the *Register*, was a very spicy and fluent writer. In the second number issued, he invited the patrons of the paper to furnish occasional "original communications," saying:

> We have among our patrons here, as we have already been informed, in the brief space of our residence in Ogle county, writers who are capable of *Hitt*-ing off "matter and things in general," in such an interesting manner as to please all manner of readers; that we may expect evidence of some very *Sharp* pens, and that the necessary *Artz* will not fail us in our efforts to treat our readers handsomely. Upon the whole, we *Judge* that we can af-*Ford* our readers complete satisfaction.

Vol. I, No. 4, contained the notice of the marriage of Michael Cheshire to Margaret McAllister, by Rev. L. S. Walker, noted by the editor to have been "the first case of matrimony which ever occurred in Mount Morris." In the same number appear the business cards of H. A. Mix and Henry Roberts, attorneys-at-law at Oregon; James J. Beatty, physician and surgeon, Mount Morris; and an administrator's notice in the matter of the estate of William Driscoll. The paper dated Feb. 26, 1842, mentioned the severe illness of the editor, Emanuel Knodle, and No. 12, issued in April, announced his death. He is said to have been a young man of extraordinary ability and had he lived would have had a brilliant future without doubt. He was the oldest brother of Mr. Samuel Knodle, for many years a resident of Mount Morris. The paper which announced Mr. Knodle's death bore the names of Knodle and Stephens, publishers, D. C. Duncan being engaged as editor. In September the paper was removed to Grand Detour, on account of the poor mail service at Mount Morris. It eventually ceased publication after a career of less than two years and was entirely lost sight of.

Seven years passed after the failure of the *Register* before any parties found sufficient courage to try another newspaper enterprise, but in February, 1850, Mr. J. Frederick Grosh and Mr. Tomlinson Ankney purchased the material with which the *Rockford Free Press* had been printed, removed it to Mount Morris, and in March the first number of the *Mount Morris Gazette* was issued, published by J. F. Grosh and edited by Prof. D. J. Pinckney. Concerning this paper *Kett's History of Ogle County* says: "It was a seven-column folio sheet, tolerably well printed and ably edited. It was professedly neutral in politics, but the editor was very independent in the expression of his opinions, and sometimes the paper inclined somewhat strongly to the party with which he affiliated.

The printing of the first number of the *Gazette* was a notable event in the history of both town and county, and occasioned as much excitement as did the completion of the railroad to the same place twenty years later. The *Gazette*, however, was not a success financially and the publishers, after a year's experience, discovered that its publication was a losing business, and in the spring of 1851 disposed of the material to R. C. Burchell, of Oregon, who removed it to that place and established the *Ogle County Gazette*, afterward the *Reporter*, which still exists. The sale of the material, however, does not appear to have stopped the *Mount Morris Gazette*. No. 3 of the second volume, dated May 29, 1851, bears the name of Brayton, Baker & Co., publishers, and Prof. Pinckney, editor. It says that there were no press, type or printers in Mount Morris at that time, and although the paper was published there, it was printed elsewhere, probably by Mr. Burchell at Oregon. But this manner of publishing a newspaper did not suit the enterprising citizens of Mount Morris who organized a joint stock company, purchased a new outfit, and No. 3, dated June 26, was beautifully printed in new type, and was one of the handsomest papers ever printed in the county. It was under the editorial charge of Professors D. J. Pinckney and S. M. Fellows, and it is needless to add was conducted with signal ability. The paper was not self-sustaining, however, and after a year's experience the company rented the office to Messrs. C. C. Allen and S. D. Atkins, then attending school at Rock River Seminary. These gentlemen, by devoting a part of their time to the office and the remainder to their studies, were enabled to prolong its existence until the spring of 1853, when the office was sold to them and removed to Savanna, Ill.

Three years later, in 1856, Messrs. Atwood and Metcalf started a paper called the *Northwestern Republican*. Samuel Knodle managed its publication for over a year when it was sold to Col. M. S. Barnes, who had been running a daily in Chicago. He changed the name of the paper to *Independent Watchman*. After a year under his management it was purchased by a company of town merchants and put under the editorial management of Prof. W. S. Pope, Dr. F. A. McNeill and J. D. Dopf, with Mr. Dopf publisher. Its publication continued until the winter of 1860-'61 when Mr. Dopf removed the material to Polo where it developed into the *Ogle County Press*, still being published.

After this Mount Morris was without a newspaper for fifteen years, the utter failure of all the early enterprises having evidently frightened every one from again making the attempt. Ten years later, however, a job printing-office was established by Samuel Knodle with a small hand-press and an assortment of job type. Mr. Knodle's job office became famous all over the county and the amount of printing which he did was remarkable. The press used by him is preserved in the *Mount Morris Index* office and compared with the present improved printing machinery is quite a relic.

In 1876, Mr. Knodle was instrumental in forming an incorporated stock company, he himself owning half the stock, and the *Mount Morris*

*Independent* was started, with Prof. D. J. Pinckney as editor. Mismanagement by the board of directors again made this enterprise a failure, and it was sold in May, 1877, to John Sharer and changed to the *Ogle County Democrat*, with Mr. Sharer as editor and Dr. B. G. Stephens, associate editor. It was successfully conducted under this caption for nearly nine years, when it was moved to Oregon and changed to the *Independent-Democrat*, which in the fall of 1900 was incorporated with the *Ogle County Constitution*, of that place. However, the presses, type and entire printing outfit was brought back to Mount Morris by Mr. Sharer, and in July, 1890, was sold to Charles T. Coggins, who established the *Mount Morris Index*. For six or seven years Mr. Coggins conducted the paper with much success but finally began to neglect the business, and in 1897 unceremoniously left town. His wife, Mrs. Carrie H. Coggins, edited the paper for a time and later took as a partner Mr. Harry C. Walrath. In September, 1898, the plant came under the management of H. J. and H. G. Kable, who, after two years in the business, have brought the paper up to its most flourishing state of prosperity. Very little of the *Index* equipment as turned over by Coggins & Walrath yet remains. The old worn-out presses were discarded and new improved machinery put in their places, with a new gasoline engine to furnish the power. The large cylinder press added in the fall of 1899 prints four pages of the *Index* at one impression at the rate of 1,500 per hour. The old "Guernsey," which it succeeded was purchased at the time of the establishment of the *Mount Morris Independent*, in 1876, and was used nearly twenty-five years in printing the weekly issues of the *Democrat* and the *Index*. It was operated by a crank which was attached to a very large fly-wheel, and the whole proved no very easy task to operate. Persons who helped to turn it in years past are often met with, the number of them having been thus engaged being extremely large, from the fact that not many cared for the job more than the first trial. Robert Long, now a prize fighter, was a frequent operator of the old press, and can probably attribute a part of his muscle to that vigorous exercise. Besides excellent presses the *Index* office is equipped with an improved stapler, a large paper-cutter and new book type. Since September, 1899, the plant has occupied spacious quarters in the building formerly occupied by the Brethren Publishing House on the northeast corner of the college campus.

May 20, 1896, Mount Morris acquired a second newspaper,—the *Mount Morris News*, edited and published by Charles H. Canode, with M. Eliza Canode as associate editor. In October, 1900, Mr. Canode sold out to A. H. Rittenhouse & Co., who now conduct the business. The plant is situated upstairs over the rear of the grocery store of the Newcomer Company.

Besides newspapers, Mount Morris has had a number of religious and educational journals. During the gap of fifteen years, 1861 to 1876, between the publication of the *Independent Watchman* and *Mount Morris Independent*, *The Annual*, a Sunday-school paper, was published for

several years, commencing about 1862, with Col. B. F. Sheets and later Rev. J. H. Vincent as editors; and also about that time a paper was issued under the auspices of the literary societies of Rock River Seminary, devoted exclusively to matter pertaining to that institution. At present, Mount Morris College issues a paper regularly, known as *Our Young People*, which sometimes, as in the case of July of 1900, reaches a circulation as high as ten thousand.

In the year 1880, M. M. Eshelman moved a private printing outfit to this place from Lanark, where he had been publishing a Dunker paper known as the *Brethren at Work*. He continued the same here with a circulation of about four thousand, occupying, at that time, quarters in the Seibert block. In 1881, Mr. Eshelman failed and the business was purchased by Elders D. L. Miller and Joseph Amick. In 1884 these gentlemen consolidated with their plant that of the *Primitive Christian*, of Huntingdon, Pa., and changed the name to the *Gospel Messenger*. From that time until 1896 the company began the publication of a large number of church papers, books and tracts, and built up a very profitable business. In 1896 the entire publishing business was turned over to the Brethren church, and is now the property of that highly-respected Christian organization. In September, 1899, the plant was moved to the city of Elgin, at which time the circulation of the *Messenger* reached nearly twenty thousand and the volume of a year's business amounted to over $125,000. Among those prominently connected with the house in late years are Eld. J. H. Moore, H. B. Brumbaugh, Eld. D. L. Miller and Grant Mahan, editors; Eld. Joseph Amick, business manager; L. A. Plate, foreman of the composing room; and S. M. Eshelman, foreman of the mailing department.

# CHAPTER IX.

## MUSICAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FAMILIES.

A history of Mount Morris would not be complete without some mention of the many musical organizations which the village has produced, and of the musical talent of both the past and present. At an early day Mount Morris was seldom behind in anything, and many of the organizations and enterprises now common throughout the country, were first produced in this enterprising little village. It lays claim to the first printing-office, one of the first schoolhouses, and the first of a number of other pioneer ventures; and there is also strong evidence that the first brass band in the county also found birth in Mount Morris. The band, in question, was organized in the spring of 1845, only six years after the founding of the village. Mrs. Mary Knodle has in her possession a number of account books of this old band, kept by her husband, Mr. Peter Knodle, deceased, which show that the members were H. J. Burns, Peter Knodle, John F. Grosh, Samuel Knodle, Jacob A. Knodle, Jonathan Knodle, Nathan Evans, A. C. Marston, Simon Warner, A. Coffman, Robert S. Hitt, Chauncey Sheldon, Andrew Hitt, Frederick Finkbohnar, Christian Finkbohnar, Frederick B. Brayton, Henry Neff, William Lott, William J. Fouke, F. Hedrick and B. G. Stephens. These were not all members at its first organization, but some came in later to supply the places occasionally made vacant by the dropping out of older players. The account kept of the finances of the band is quite interesting. A few of the entries are as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| July 1. 1845, | Paid by the members for instruments, | $129.00 | |
| July 1, | Paid by citizens, | 21.00 | |
| July 12, | Paid for the instruments, | | $150.00 |
| July 12, | Members taxed 50 cents per piece, | 7.50 | |
| July 12, | Peter Knodle, fined for lending drum, | 1.00 | |
| July 24, | F. B. Brayton, fined for not voting, | .05 | |
| July 24, | Each member taxed 25 cents, | 5.50 | |
| July 24, | Paid to Peter Knodle for mouthpiece, | | .37 |
| August 4, | Freight and storage, | | 6.75 |
| August 4, | One pound of candles, | | .15 |
| August 4, | Paid Jacob Knodle for table, | | 4.00 |
| August 4, | Postage on three letters, | | .39 |

Entries for candles occur frequently, showing that the band spent much time in practice. John F. Grosh assumed the leadership shortly after organization, and many entries show the payment of considerable sums into the treasury for tuition, the some then being turned over to him. Evidently the band had excellent discipline, from the number of

fines recorded to have been imposed for "contempt to society," for not voting, for neglect of duty, for absence, for breaking instruments, etc.

This band appears to have existed until sometime in the early fifties, and, owing to the scarcity of such organizations in northern Illinois at that time, traveled among the surrounding towns quite extensively. A number of their old instruments can yet be found about town. Jacob A. Knodle still posesses the E♭ clarinet which he played, and Mrs. Mary Knodle has an old B♭ clarinet and the old bass drum, the latter having been played by Peter Knodle. Emery Neff, of Leaf River, also possesses the old flute played in this band by his father, Henry Neff. These old instruments are curiosities from the fact that they are much different from the modern instruments bearing the same name. The bass drum is one of the most curious, being double the width of the modern pattern.

Before proceeding further, it will be well to mention two musical families who have lived in Mount Morris and were intimately connected for many years with all matters concerning the melodious art. Henry A. Neff has already been mentioned as a member of the first band in Mount Morris. His wife also possessed musical talent and their ear for the art was transmitted undiminished to their four sons, Milton, Clark, Addison W. and Emery I., and two daughters, Lura, (Mr. A. S. McCoy's first wife) and Nettie (Mrs. G. W. Deppen). Milton was the musical genius of the family, having been probably the best all-around cornet player the town has ever produced. When leader of the band, he contributed much to its success by his elegant execution of brilliant triple-tongue cornet solos. Clark Neff, for many years also leader of the band, was also a fine cornetist, and figured conspicuously in musical circles. Milton died at Mount Morris, in 1878, and Clark, in Mount Morris, in 1892. A number of the older members of the family also developed their God-given talent.

The other family in question is the McCosh family, consisting of Dr. and Mrs. John McCosh and their five sons, Prof. David S., James, Dr. George B., Scott, and Benjamin; and three daughters, Sarah, Susie and Lucia, the two former now being Mrs. Jacob Strock and Mrs. Charles Sharer. Prof. D. S. McCosh has in the past and is still making music his profession, and has written hundreds of fine selections for band and orchestra and led many large bands. He plays a variety of instruments and when younger was a fine cornetist. In fact he is the musical genius of the family. "Hear Dem Bells," a vocal selection composed by him reached the circulation of many hundred thousand copies. His musical publications have altogether been very successful on the market. Dr. G. B. McCosh attained much proficiency as a tuba player in some of the old bands, and he also plays a number of other instruments. He has composed some music, showing that he possesses much ability yet undeveloped. Benjamin is also a music publisher and band leader living at St. Charles. These three and also Scott, who is dead, and James, now living in Tennessee, all were thorough musicians and played for

years in the old bands of Mt. Morris. Later mention is made of the three sisters of the family. It is a peculiar fact that every member of the family should have been so well endowed with the genius of a musical ear. The children of a number of them are, with few exceptions, also born musicians.

To get back to the subject of bands, the first old band was disorganized in about the early fifties, and from that time until after the Civil War, remained so. About the year 1867 a new band was organized with Morris Gaffin as leader. Some of the early members were Clark and Milton Neff, David and James McCosh, William Bull, Calvin Potter, David Rine, John Nye, Frank Knodle, Lee Crofts, George Keplinger, Jacob Fager and Charles Knodle. The band continued in organization for probably not less than twenty years, with, however, a continual change of membership owing to the coming and going of musical talent. Probably the best period in its existence was during the time when Milton Neff was leader. At that time some of the members were Clark and Emory Neff, George and Benj. McCosh, Charles and F. F. Knodle, Charles Sharer, Ed. Allen and James Webb. They played in a number of contests and had many engagements at fairs at Oregon, Rochelle and Mount Carroll, and for numerous other events. They became quite noted.

For a score of years past there have been a large number of bands, but generally they have been short lived, probably from a lack of sufficient financial support. In 1890 a "kid band" was organized, which, like the others, was of brief existence. During the winter of 1896–'97 another band of boys was organized and by diligent practice every week they have attained to a degree of efficiency equalled by very few of the old bands. The organization is known as the Mount Morris Military Band. A portrait of the band with its membership during the summer season of 1900 appears on the opposite page. A fine new band-stand was erected in 1898 upon the southeast corner of the campus. In this stand Saturday-night concerts are given during the summer, large crowds gathering from the surrounding country to hear the enlivening music. The band is finely uniformed and furnished with good instruments. Engagements have been filled at the Rock River Assembly, at Freeport, Rochelle, Lanark, Oregon, Polo, Forreston, and other places. The band was first organized under the leadership of Charles H. Canode, who was succeeded by William Lohafer, Jr., and later by Prof. David S. McCosh, who acted as instructor until his departure from Mount Morris in the spring of 1900, when Burton Strock took charge and is the present leader. Among the members connected with this band since its organization are the following, some of whom are not now members: Prof. D. S. McCosh and two sons, Leighton and Dudley; William Lohafer, Charles Canode, Burton Strock, Roy Brayton, Roy Jackson, Blair McCosh, Harvey Kable, Harry Kable, Robert Buser, Leslie Rees, Vernon Rees, Earl Clevidence, Ernest Brayton, William Fouke, Oscar Olson, Merritt Miller, Merritt Deppen, Edward Marvin, Fred Stoner, and Clayton Gloss. Elmer Shank is the band's drum major.

Ernest Brayton  Harry Kable  Elmer Shank  Clayton Gloss  Harvey Kable
Merritt Deppen  Vernon Rees  Leslie Rees  Earl Clevidence  William Fouke
Oscar Olson  Burton Strock  Roy Brayton  Roy Jackson

*THE MOUNT MORRIS MILITARY BAND, SUMMER OF 1900.*

In the way of orchestras, Mount Morris has had a great many, and any detailed account of them would be impossible. There were many very excellent ones, notable among which was Thompson's orchestra, of a half-score years ago. A photograph of this organization is reproduced on this page. Some of the best violin players of the present time are Gregor Thompson, Blair McCosh and F. F. Knodle.

In the past there have been a number of good pianists, several of whom gave instruction upon that instrument. Among them will be remembered Alice Lott, Florence Brayton, (now Mrs. Gilbert of Iowa), Josephine Cheney and a Mr. Armsby. Miss Lucia McCosh is probably the

E. E. Winders Henry Magoon John Thomas Oscar Doward
Charles Ford Thos. Newcomer Gregor Thompson Levi Bear Irvin Thomas

*THOMPSON'S ORCHESTRA, NOW DISORGANIZED.*

most accomplished pianist in Mount Morris at present, having devoted a great deal of time in training and practicing upon this instrument. She graduated with special honor from the Chicago Musical College in 1900. She does some composing and has charge of the musical department of Mount Morris College. Mr. U. C. Nye and Miss Olive Lipe are also graduate pianists, the former of the Chicago Musical College and the latter of the musical department of the Wisconsin State University, at Madison. Mrs. J. L. Rice received a year's training in Boston, and Miss Pearl Williams, a year in the Chicago Musical College. These five rank high in technical execution and are regarded as skilled musicians. Other musically-talented people in the community who have devoted

considerable time to the piano are Mrs. F. C. Remmer, Roy Brayton, and the Misses Susie Zumdahl, Myrtle Royer, Estella Fry, Olive Stahlhut, Gladys McCosh and Lura Neff.

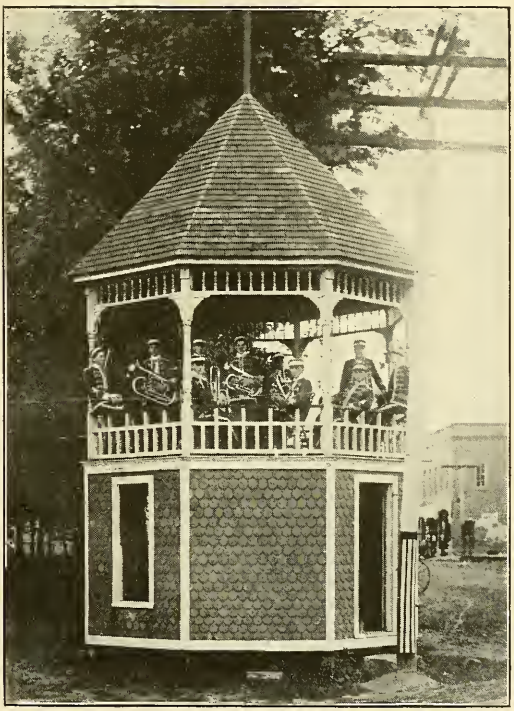
Among vocalists who claim Mount Morris as their place of nativity, probably the most conspicuous have been Miss Catherine McNeill, daughter of Dr. Francis A. and Mrs. Barbara McNeill, who was married to Dr. Hoffman at Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, in 1899, and Miss Susie McCosh, now Mrs. Chas. Sharer, of Mount Morris. These ladies sang together on many occasions, at one time taking a gold medal for the best duet at a musical convention held at Cedar Lake, Iowa. Miss McNeill's beautiful contralto voice was developed in the best schools at Boston and Paris, after which she traveled extensively with the best opera companies of the country. Mrs. Sharer possesses a very fine soprano voice and became very well known as a soloist, as much so in this vicinity as Miss McNeill. Many favorable newspaper comments were made concerning her singing. After one appearance in Mount Morris the *Democrat* said: "There are but few ladies outside of the role of professionals so able to captivate an audience. . . . It is proper to say—attribute it to whatever cause—that there never sang a lady to our people who was so popular as Miss Susie McCosh." Miss Maria Hitt, now Mrs. Chas. Newcomer, was also a well-known vocalist, having had an excellent musical training at Washington, D. C., and having been instructor in music in Rock River Seminary. J. M. Piper was a singer of note, having led the Methodist choir for years. Chas. H. Sharer was also a member of the M. E. choir, having an exceptionally fine tenor voice. He also played baritone in the band. A quartette, consisting of Susie McCosh, soprano; Sarah McCosh, alto; Charles H. Sharer, tenor; and Geo. B. McCosh, bass, was a very popular organization a few years ago, and did much singing in public. Other old singers were Misses Minnie E. Little and Lillie Knodle, sopranos; and William Little, bass, who were always called upon when any public entertainments were given in which local singers were needed. At the present time Mount Morris possesses a strong force of good singers, a number of them being included in the church choirs. Among those not already mentioned who have had considerable vocal training are U. C. Nye, Mrs. B. T. Ryder, Mrs. G. W. Deppen, Misses Eliza Canode, Myrtle Royer, Olive Lipe, Lura Neff, Minerva Eversole, Dr. J. B. Moats, and others.

In 1900 the Harmonia Male Quartette, consisting of Walter Wolfe first tenor; U. C. Nye, second tenor; F. C. Remmer, first bass; C. H. Canode, second bass, was formed and was in demand upon special occasions.

Mention has already been made of a number of musical families. This faculty is also quite noticeable among the Knodles, as will be noticed by the frequent occurrence of that name in connection with some of the bands mentioned. F. F. Knodle is still a resident of Mount Morris, devoting his entire time to composing orchestra music and giving lessons on the violin. The family of William Lohafer, Sr., is also musically inclined. Henry and William Lohafer, Jr., are old band boys,

the former playing tuba, and the latter, cornet. William is a triple-tongue cornet soloist of much ability, being the best in this part of the country. Misses Rosa, Nettie and Pearl are good vocalists. The three sons of A. W. Brayton are all connected with musical organizations, the eldest, Louis, being leader and first mandolin player of the State University mandolin club.

Besides local musical talent there is always a considerable number of students at Mount Morris College who possess ability in that line, there being ample provision for the study of both vocal and instrumental music in that institution.



*BAND STAND.*
Southeast corner of college campus.

# CHAPTER X.

## LOCAL CALAMITIES.

It is probably a fact that no village or township or municipal corporation over the broad states of the entire Union has escaped with a local history void of calamity by storm, fire or pestilential disease with resultant losses of valuable property and possibly life, in greater or less degree; and so it is with Mount Morris, with which this book is concerned, although it must be said that the number of calamities has been probably below the average, especially in the way of fires and contagious diseases.

In the history of Mount Morris is recorded the occurrence of two tornadoes, one passing directly over the village on the morning of June 8, 1874, and the other devastating a path of destruction across the southeast corner of the township on the evening of May 18, 1898. The first passed as nearly through the exact center of the village as would be possible from the fact that the college campus lay immediately in its path, the roof of the large stone dormitory being partly carried away. Concerning this tornado the following newspaper writeup was sent to the *Ogle County Grange* for publication by some resident of Mount Morris, and appeared in that paper. It gives a good idea of the storm:

"About five o'clock this morning two great black clouds, one from the east and one from the west, were seen approaching. Over the northwest portion of Mount Morris they met and spread devastation far and wide. For about ten minutes there was a terrible roaring of wind and crashing of trees and houses. Then followed the calm. Citizens hurried together from all quarters. S. Mumma's stables were completely wrecked. The pieces were scattered in every direction, some even passing through the siding and plastering of the houses of adjoining residents. The horses and a yard full of stock escaped unhurt. The harnesses were carried across the garden and rolled in the mud. One new buggy was torn in pieces and much fruit destroyed. Sidney Redfield's house was staved in and carried clear off its foundation. His wife was severely injured but the baby was dragged unhurt from under a pile of debris. Peter Glasgow's house was completely riddled by flying fence-boards and other missles; stove broken into bits, barn destroyed, the garden deprived of its fence, and many fruit trees blown down. Mr. James Withers lost one entire part of his house. Close by was the residence of Widow Weakle, the windows of which were broken, sash and glass. The raging storm next seized the residence of Elder Walker, now occupied by F. Black, and tore up his trees, demolished the barn and out-houses; ripped up the fence and sidewalk, sending one large timber through a window across a bed containing two men, and smashed into the partition on the other side. The occupants were some injured by the flying glass. One rocking-chair took a flying leap into the Seminary yard. Mrs. M. A. McKean lost half the roof of her house. The adjoining residence of Mrs. E. Crofts received but little damage, but the fruit trees were laid in all directions. Two large cherry trees standing close to the house were completely twisted off. Thence the storm swept over the Seminary tearing off the west half of the roof and scattering the debris over the principal street. It injured Seibert some, smashing in half the front of his billiard hall. The east end of D. Rine's agricultural

house was lifted and moved around upon the foundation of Sprecher & Clevidence's new storehouse. In the southeast part of town the gable end of the brick residence of Widow McCoy was tumbled in upon nice furniture and fine carpets. The barn and out-buildings were severely racked. Both gable ends of the brick residence of E. Lott were thrown in upon the nicely-furnished rooms. One hundred apple trees and a barn were destroyed for A. Cunningham. The town residence of A. Q. Allen lost part of its roofing. The barn and fence of George Fouke were blown down. Such was the destruction wrought here in so short a time that no one had time to become frightened or be aware of the extent of the danger before it was all over. Then they found this part of the town to have been subjected to a terrible calamity. No lives were lost and none seriously hurt."

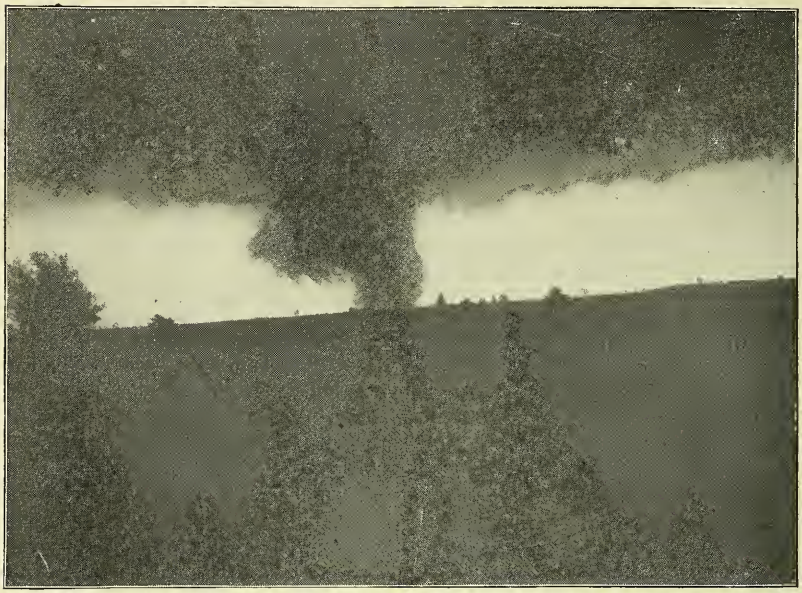
The tornado of 1874 was a wonderful exhibition of the marvelous power which the winds are able to exercise, but compared with that terrible devastating cloud which hewed a path of destruction across Ogle county in 1898, was but a breeze, a gentle zephyr toying with the foliage of a forest. All have yet a vivid remembrance of that 18th day of May. Those who had an opportunity of viewing the huge, black, revolving cloud and heard its sullen roar as it licked up every available object and whirled it into the terrible vortex above, grinding and mincing and scattering to the four winds, will never forget it.

During the afternoon of the day of the storm the appearance and maneuvers of the clouds were remarkable. At times far overhead could be seen light clouds floating lazily in one direction, while much farther beneath were blacker, heavier clouds moving in exactly the opposite direction, showing that there were two distinct layers of air. Fitful gusts of wind and short showers of rain and hail were frequent during the afternoon, but toward five o'clock the air became still and calm, and remained so for about an hour. The clouds were of inky blackness, sometimes of slightly different hues, and presented a most ominous appearance. Not a leaf was astir; the atmosphere became oppressive and breathing difficult. Between five and six o'clock persons out of doors detected a dull rumble coming from the southwest which at first was supposed to have been thunder, but the persistency of the sound and its gradual increase in volume soon attracted attention, and persons in the country and the south and west parts of town were appalled by the appearance and rapid approach of one of those funnel-shaped clouds, the identity of which was not long in doubt in the mind of anyone. The cloud continued to approach in a path apparently headed for Mount Morris, but when within about three miles from town could be seen to shift more to the southward, which was afterward proved by an examination of its path. This change of course carried the cloud about a mile south of town and it very soon receded in the distance, disappearing from view beyond Rock river.

Although this storm passed over only a small corner of Mount Morris township, it will probably not be out of place to trace its terrible work through a part of Buffalo, Pine Creek and Rockvale townships, considering the fact that it came so near the village, and traversed a territory so familiar to Mount Morris people.

After leaving the vicinity of Polo the cloud encountered the G. E.

Fahrney premises, about three miles west of Stratford, and demolished the residence, barn, and all the outbuildings, his farm machinery being destroyed and considerable stock killed and injured. The family escaped death in the cellar. The barn of the farm of Mr. Fahrney's mother, a little farther east, was in the track of the tornado, and was demolished. One mile east of Mr. Fahrney's premises the lawn trees at the residence of George Garnhart were uprooted, but the house and barn escaped with but slight damage. At this place a wing of the cloud swung to the southward and swept a path through about one-half mile north of Stratford, demolishing the barn on the Charles Hayes farm. The main body of



*SNAP-SHOT OF THE TERRIBLE CLOUD.*
Photographed by Prof. W. L. Eikenberry.

the cloud crossed the farm of William Coffman, one mile northwest of Stratford and almost completely obliterated the fine residence and farm buildings, which covered nearly an acre of ground. The next day the place presented a desolate appearance, and was viewed by hundreds of people. Men were gathering up wounded pigs, calves, etc., in the barnyard, and eighty rods northeast of the house five horses were being buried that had been carried away with the barn. The inmates of the house had a narrow escape. They all went to the cellar except the hired man who had gone up stairs for his pocketbook, which was in his Sunday pants. While he was on the second floor the building was carried away

A Tree Slightly Twisted by the Storm.
Major Newcomer's Timber.
Another View of the Terrible Cloud.
A Tree Shattered by the Storm.
Major Newcomer's Timber.
Lath Driven Through Pine Boards.
Corn-crib on the Farm of Benj. Friddley.
A Chicken Rendered Featherless
Ruins of the Lawrence House.

Photographs by W. L. Eikenberry. *SCENES IN THE PATH OF THE CYCLONE OF 1898.*

and he was dashed to the ground with the falling timbers, receiving only a few scratches. He crawled out of the wreck and spied his pants hanging on a tree near by with the money safe. The family had taken refuge in the northwest corner of the cellar, where nothing injured them. A pitch-fork and set of harness were dropped just in front of them but no heavy timbers fell near them. Had they taken refuge in any other part of the cellar the result might have been otherwise, as it was filled with the collapsed walls, and no one could have escaped.

From the Coffman farm the whirling monster passed north of George Clevidence's residence, and sweeping through his pasture field, killed a number of cattle and horses. It next encountered the tenement property of Charles Weller, which was occupied by Samuel Lawrence. The house was carried but a short distance from the foundation and demolished. The steel roof with the gable ends still in place was left lying near, as is seen in the halftone on the preceding page. Here the safe part of the cellar was the southeast corner, where the family had fortunately taken shelter. The remainder of the cellar was filled with timbers, stones and bricks; and a pig sty, which had occupied a position about fifty feet to the southeast, was picked up and dropped in upon the mass of rubbish. The corner sought by the family came also near proving a death trap, a large cook-stove having landed upon the wall just over their heads. Had it been moved but a few feet farther they would have been crushed.

The next residence was that of Joseph Artz. A large barn, 24x64 feet was swept away, very little of it being left to mark the spot. The roof was taken off of the west side of the house and several corn cribs damaged. A new granary which stood about twenty rods west of the residence was demolished, and a new buggy and considerable farm machinery destroyed. Mr. Artz had a fine lawn set with immense shade trees in which he had taken much pride. After the passage of the storm these large trees were found either uprooted or broken off and the beauty of the place sadly ruined. The roadway was completely blocked by the trunks of some of the trees carried from this yard.

One of the most peculiar sights along this route was the manner in which the buildings upon the farm of William Ambrose were handled. The residence is built of brick and stands on the brow of a hill about ten rods back from the road. The entire wall on the south side of this brick structure was drawn out, leaving the floors and rooms on that side exposed. All of the furniture was carried from one of the rooms on the second floor while another retained only the bedstead and springs, ready to receive again the bedding if it ever should be found. The large bank barn was entirely carried away except the lower floor and wall and machinery which was dropped on the south side and badly damaged. A new wagon was dashed into the hollow near the barn, one of the wheels of which had the tires with all the felloes in place torn from the spokes almost as smooth as a wagon-maker could have cut them. Leaving this scene of destruction the cloud passed near the farm of Charles D. Weller, one wing demolishing sheds, tearing doors from the barn and scattering

his farm machinery over the surrounding country. A hay loader in one of the sheds was literally torn to pieces. Mr. Weller was the only man in that section who had his loss covered by tornado insurance.

The tornado crossed Pine Creek about five rods north of the Pine Creek bridge and entered the timber owned by William Watts and Oliver Coffman, doing serious damage. Trees were felled into the road from either side, completely blocking it, and a large amount of cord-wood ranked in the east part of the timber, south of the road, was scattered over the fields for half a mile to the eastward, as were also the rails from the fences along the road. Amos Baker and family fled to the fields upon the approach of the cloud and escaped its fury, as did also their house, although numerous trees were broken down. Across the road in the field a

*DESTRUCTION WROUGHT ON THE D. E. PRICE FARM.*

roll of fence wire weighing four hundred pounds was picked up and carried half a mile and then dropped in the outer course of the storm. A wing moved out south of the main body and did considerable damage on the Samuel Price farm. The Salem church escaped, although several rods of fence immediately north of the structure were demolished.

The tornado now appeared to gather new energy and swept across the open field north of the residence on the farm owned by Elder D. E. Price, unroofing the north part of the house and completely demolishing the barn. A large pine tree in the yard had part of its top mowed off as if cut to order. The barn was 34 by 56 feet with a granary 26 by 34 feet. Nearly 1000 bushels of oats and about 900 bushels of corn were stored in the barn and granary, but the greater part was saved, as the floors were not moved.

The farm was occupied by Carlton Wolfe, who was a heavy loser in the storm. His binder, plows, corn planter, and other machinery were broken beyond repair and a number of cattle, horses and hogs were badly injured. One horse was carried fifty rods and afterward found with a piece of timber firmly imbedded in its back.

The residence of Benj. Fridley, about one and one-half miles south of Mount Morris, was the next place directly in the path of the tornado and there it was that the terrified residents of the village first closely inspected the awful work of the storm. The house, barn and every outbuilding were so completely swept away that nothing was left to indicate the former abode of the family save the cellar walls, an old battered fence and the mud-plastered stumps of several trees which had stood in the yard.

*WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE FRIDLEY HOUSE.*

So complete was the ruin that the mind could scarcely be forced to believe the truth, presented before one's very eyes. Excepting a few splintered boards and planks scattered near the foundation and in the field to the eastward, hardly a vestage of the house and its furnishings could be found. It would seem that the great bulk of the material used in the construction of the buildings could have been found, at least within a radius of a mile, but such was not the case; it was evidently carried into the vortex of the mighty whirlwind, churned into a million atoms and strewn along the path of destruction for many miles. At this place occurred the first injury to human life along the path described. Mr. Fridley, his daughters, Mattie and Bessie, and sons, John and Benj., decended to the cellar at the approach of the cloud, but John, the eldest son, left the cellar

to investigate and was caught by the storm on the south side of the house. He seized hold of a tree, and in some miraculous manner succeeded in clinging to it until the fearful disturbance had passed, notwithstanding the fact that the tree was broken off not far above his head and the bark skinned off of the stump nearly to the ground. He was exceedingly fortunate that he escaped with his life and as it was, he had one leg broken, and sustained numerous severe bruises caused by being struck by flying missiles. The others of the family who remained in the cellar were only slightly injured by flying debris, Mr. Fridley being bruised the most. Here there were many curious sights, such as chickens with every feather blown off running about as if to escape the kettle, and animals with pieces of boards driven into them. The path of the storm both west and east of

*RUINS OF BARN ON OLD FRIDLEY PLACE.*

the Fridley place presented a most remarkable aspect, because of the thoroughness with which all fences and vegetation were swept away and the clear definition of its limits, shown by the thick slimy mud with which everything remaining was covered.

The old Fridley place, along the railroad, occupied by Jacob Bonar next was visited by the funnel-shaped cloud, and although the house was unharmed the huge bank barn was left in a heap of ruins. Mrs. Bonar, and her brother, David Hedrick, were milking in the barn at the time, but both escaped without serious injury. Mr. Bonar lost much valuable farm machinery. At this place there were further evidences of the terrible force of the storm. Pine sticks, some of them not more than a quarter of an inch thick, were driven through inch boards in the gable of the corn crib, and the steel wind-mill tower twisted to the ground as though it were but a stock of grain.

TERRIBLE WORK OF THE TORNADO IN MAJOR NEWCOMER'S TIMBER.

On John Fridley's farm the barn was unroofed and the sides partly demolished. The shingles were blown off of a part of the house roof, but otherwise the house escaped unharmed. From this point the storm widened to nearly a mile, one wing reaching as far east as Andrew Fridley's place, overturning out-buildings and mangling the orchard trees. At David Fridley's farm, the summer kitchen was carried away, a part of the barn unroofed and the windwill thrown over. As a result of the cloud's visit to the premises of Andrew Gigous the house had almost to be rebuilt and many demolished out-buildings replaced. A corn-planter left standing in the field was missing after the storm and not a trace of it was ever found. A small amount of insurance was granted him by the Pine Creek company in which his property was insured.

The farm owned by the Thomas brothers on the Mount Morris-Oregon road was next devastated, but the damage was slight. The main body of the cloud passed to the northward through the timber on the old Phelps farm, owned by Major Chas. Newcomer, and again at this place the spectators of the day following had occasion to open their mouths and eyes in wonder. Every tree was badly mutilated, the most of them, both large and small, being either broken off, twisted down or uprooted. Past the timber the small Martin home was obliterated, and that of J. Wareham handled almost as roughly. Farther on, a number of buildings on the farm of Harvey Griswold were destroyed and the cloud then passed on to Rock river. In passing over the high bluff on the west side, the dancing pavilion erected on the crest by a Chicago club, was rolled down the slope and deposited in the road beneath. Persons living near say that vast volumes of water were drawn up into the cloud as it passed over the river, and undoubtedly the stream was very much disturbed.

After crossing the river suffice it to say that the tornado continued on its destructive course to Stillman Valley where much damage was done and a number of lives lost.

After the cloud had passed by Mount Morris to the eastward, the citizens of Mount Morris, realizing from the appearance and terrible roar of the storm that much mischief must have been done, hastened without delay to the nearest part of the path which was at the former location of the Fridley residence. During the remainder of the evening and far into the night and during several succeeding days hundreds of people visited the scene, and many followed along the entire path. It was certainly a most remarkable exhibition of what the elements are capable of, and the people of Mount Morris are to be congratulated upon the freak of the tornado in changing its course and avoiding the limits of the village.

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Besides tornadoes, the vicinity of Mount Morris has been visited by a number of very severe hailstorms, which did much damage to windows and vegetation. Probably the most severe of these was the one which occurred on the evening of May 13, 1886, when the pellets of ice destroyed much property. The storm came from the southwest, such that all win-

dows facing that direction were broken and also many shutters and sashes broken. After the hail ceased falling and the wind subsided, the south side of the gentlemen's dormitory presented a sorry appearance, the forty-eight windows having hardly a single unbroken pane of glass. The hailstones were some of them as large as base balls, and some of very irregular and jagged appearance. On the day following the storm Mr. Michael Bohner made a careful computation of the number of panes of glass broken in the village of Mount Morris alone, and gave the following result from an estimate made upon personal inquiry and individual investigation: Total number of panes broken, 4,415; loss, about $1,150. Other losses occurring raised it to nearly $5,000, including the damage to the fruit crop.

Probably the hailstorm which would rank second in point of violence and amount of damage done is the one which visited the town in May, 1860, coming from the same direction as the one above mentioned. Although the hail was not so large, a general breaking of windows occurred throughout the town.

On page thirty-two of this volume, in Peter Knodle's diary, is the account of a hailstorm on Monday evening, June 27, 1842, in which five or six hundred panes of glass were broken in Mount Morris.

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Mount Morris can be said to have been very fortunate in the past in the way of fires, there having never been a conflagration in which more than one large building was destroyed, and but few instances where a single structure has been burned entirely to the ground. There have been but two cases of total destruction of valuable buildings by fire within the limits of the village, both occurring during the 90's; the first the destruction of R. C. McCredie's creamery in 1895, and the second the property of J. A. Kable in 1897. The former was started by a spark from the smoke-stack, alighting on the roof. The fire was discovered at about the middle of the forenoon, April 13, 1895, and it was not long until the structure was a heap of ashes. The village, at that time, had no fire protection except the "bucket brigade" which was always formed at fires and consisted of a column of men, extending from the burning structure to any available pump, along which pails of water would be passed as fast as they could be filled by two or three men operating the pump handle. This method, however, failed to be of any use in this case owing to the headway the flames had gained when the fire was discovered. The estimated loss was about $3,500, which was partly covered by insurance. Mr. McCredie immediately rebuilt the creamery.

The immediate result of the burning of Mr. McCredie's creamery was the creation of a strong sentiment in favor of the establishment of a system of water-works for the village, to bar against further loss. The matter was made an issue at the following village election, and a majority vote cast in favor of it, after which the present system of water-works was put in.

The second fire mentioned, that of the burning of J. A. Kable's property, on A Street, occurred after the new water system had been put in, but before the water mains had been extended far enough or sufficient hose purchased to carry water to the scene of the fire. A neighbor who was tending a sick son, discovered smouldering flames in Mr. Kable's carpet-weaving shop at two o'clock in the morning, during the dead of winter, and hastily gave the alarm. The fire had evidently been burning for a considerable length of time and could not be extinguished. The house and shop, with all the weaving apparatus, were burned to the ground and was a total loss, there being no insurance on either.

In the early sixties, an old hovel standing out on the prairie somewhere near the present residence of John McNett, was set on fire by a number of mischievous boys who wished to see a blaze. The old building was formerly used as a schoolhouse, but when destroyed was utterly valueless except for firewood.

During the seventies there were two fires in which the flames gained considerable headway, but were finally extinguished by the bucket brigade before the buildings were entirely destroyed. Mrs. Sheets' residence on the corner of Hitt and McKendrie Streets was so badly damaged that it was soon afterward torn down and a new one erected, which is at present occcupied by John Merriman. The other was the house on the corner of Fletcher and West Front Streets, owned at that time by Peter Glascow and later property of Daniel Beard. It was easily repaired, however.

In the fall of 1885 occurred the first serious fire which threatened the safety of the business section of the village. It was discovered in the Seibert block at about nine o'clock in the evening, when luckily there were plenty of men still on the streets. The elevator shaft was in flames from the basement to the roof, but the strong pump just behind the building furnished an abundance of water to the bucket brigade, and under the direction of several cool-headed men the crowd succeeded in heading off the fiery element. To those who saw the flames leaping from windows on both the first and second floors, the prospects of saving any of the north business block seemed hopeless, and, in fact the extinguishing of the fire was a marvelous piece of work. Another fire in the business street was threatened one evening in the spring of 1900, by a small blaze in the Mount Morris News office in the Mammouth block. The present efficient water system served to make the danger of short duration. A. R. Binkley also once had a threatened blaze in his store and there may have been several other small blazes but none of consequence.

Among other fires which have occurred in the residence portion of Mount Morris, might be mentioned those in the residences of E. S. Young and A. E. Canode. Both caused considerable excitement but were promptly extinguished by the bucket brigade.

In the township of Mount Morris, outside of the village, there have also been fires, several of which resulted in the complete consumption of

farm residences and large barns. In 1883, the residence of Michael Miller, on his farm west of town, was destroyed and that of Solomon Nalley, a new house, in the year 1878.

# CHAPTER IX.

## COMING OF THE RAILROAD.

The history of Mount Morris might properly be divided into two epochs,—one reaching from the time of its founding in 1839 until the coming of the railroad in 1871, and the second from 1871 until the present time. During the period embraced in this first epoch Mount Morris was isolated from the world, and the restlessness of her citizens knew no bounds. Merchandise of all kinds had to be transported by team from Polo and other towns and grain was hauled long distances to market. Passengers and the mails were transported by the old-time stage coach or on horseback. At last Mount Morris people began to be very impatient for a railroad and the subject became the principal topic of discussion both in the home and on the groceryman's store box. Every rumor of a possible railway project was grasped by the anxious people and every effort made to encourage any such enterprises. It was as early as 1853 when this "railroad fever" began to take hold of the people throughout this part of the county, caused no doubt by the success of the Illinois Central railroad, built through the west part of the county in that year. Numerous lines were projected, and the people were called upon to aid in their construction by subscriptions to capital stock, donations and loans of credit, both in their individual and corporate capacities. Among those that were projected about this time was the Chicago, St. Charles & Mississippi Air Line Railroad, which was designed to cross Ogle county from east to west. The board of supervisors of the county met and voted in favor of taking $100,000 in the capital stock of this railroad. This railroad like many others failed to materialize, however.

The next railroad project to cause hope to rise in the breasts of the people was that of the Ogle & Carroll County Railroad Company which was incorporated in 1857 by the General Assembly of Illinois. Section two authorized the company to "locate, construct and complete, maintain and operate a railroad from the town of Lane (now Rochelle), in the county of Ogle, to the town of Oregon in same county; from thence to the town of Mount Morris; from thence on the most eligible and direct route to or near the town of Mt. Carroll, in the county of Carroll; from thence to the Mississippi river." The company was also empowered to construct said railroad east from Oregon to the city of Chicago. The capital stock was fixed at one million dollars, divided into shares of one hundred dollars each. The company made but little effort to organize under the original act, and two years later the charter was amended by "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to incorporate the Ogle & Carroll County Railroad

Company,'" approved February 24, 1859. The company then organized and elected directors, among whom was Frederick G. Petrie, of Mount Morris, who was elected president.

After this railroad company was actually organized in 1859, still there was apparently no better prospects of a railroad through Oregon and Mount Morris than before. Notwithstanding the fact that Oregon and other towns had repeatedly voted aid, the company had accomplished nothing toward the construction of the road as late as 1867. The nearest railroad point to Oregon, was at Franklin Grove, Lee county, on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, twelve miles away. Finally, however, the right man became interested in the railroad scheme and there began to be evidence of the railroad becoming a reality. Concerning this, *Kett's History of Ogle County* says:

"In the spring of 1867, shortly after the last vote of the town of Oregon (a vote to donate $50,000 to the company, under certain specified conditions and restrictions), the contract to build a new wagon bridge across Rock river at Oregon was awarded to Messrs. Canda & Hinckley, of Chicago. Mr. Francis E. Hinckley had the supervision of the work. While here Mr. Hinckley became aware of the existance of the charter of the Ogle & Carroll County Railroad Company and the condition of its affairs. He became interested, investigated the matter and determined that the road should be built. He waited upon the officers of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, who expressed a willingness to carry out the terms of the contract with the old G. & C. U. Company, and agreed to furnish the iron and ties as soon as the work of grading was completed, and the preliminaries relating to use of cars, drawbacks, etc., should be arranged. The firm of Canda & Hinckley, dissolved and Mr. Hinckley assumed sole control 'having,' it is authoritatively stated, 'possessed himself of a contract for the rights and franchises of the Ogle & Carroll County Railroad Company.'"

It seems, however, that this old company became disorganized and many of the old members, together with Mr. Hinckley as the moving spirit, applied to the General Assembly for the incorporation of the company under a new name, the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company. The Assembly passed the act of incorporation March 3, 1869. This act provided that "all such persons as may become stockholders in the corporation" should be a body politic and corporate, etc. This company was authorized to locate, construct, complete, maintain and operate a railroad from Chicago to a crossing of Rock river at or near the town of Oregon, thence through Ogle and Carroll counties to the Mississippi river at Savanna; thence up said river to Galena and the northern boundary of the state. The capital stock was fixed at one million dollars, in shares of one hundred dollars each, and might be increased by the directors to any sum not exceeding five millions. The act provided that the several towns, villages and cities along or near the route of the railroad, in their corporate capacity, might subscribe to the stock of the company or make donations thereto, or lend their credit to the company to aid in constructing or equipping the road,

provided, that no such subscription, donation or loan should be made until the same should be voted for by the people of the respective towns, cities or villages.

The Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company was organized soon after its incorporation, by the election of Francis E. Hinckley, James V. Gale, Frederick G. Petrie, Elias S. Potter, and David B. Stiles, directors; and the board organized by the election of Francis E. Hinckley, president, and James V. Gale, vice-president. Thenceforward the work was prosecuted by this company, entirely superseding the Ogle & Carroll County Railroad Company. In fact, the corporation act authorized the construction of this railroad over substantially the same route as the proposed Ogle & Carroll County Railroad. The promoters of the scheme proceeded immediately to solicit aid of the various towns and cities along the route, as provided by the corporation act. Oregon was the first to respond and voted to donate $50,000 to the enterprise, by a vote of 152 to 1.

During the summer and autumn of 1869, the engineers of the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company surveyed and located the road from Rochelle to Oregon, the work of grading was commenced and nearly completed. When it had nearly been finished, Henry Keep, of New York, had been elected president of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, and when Mr. Hinckley applied for the iron, which had been promised by that company, he was told that it could not be furnished him. Mr. Hinckley, accompanied by Mr. Petrie, immediately went to New York, but Mr. Keep could be induced to give no reason for violating the agreement, further than that it was not to be the policy of his company to foster or encour age any more branches. This failure, or refusal, of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company to furnish the iron and ties for the road de layed its completion, but Mr. Hinckley and his associates at length suc ceeded in making satisfactory arrangements with Mr. Joy, president of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, for a connection with that road at Aurora. An appeal was then made to the cities and towns along the proposed line of the road for aid. Aurora voted one hundred thousand dollars, Flagg fifty thousand, Mount Morris and Forreston each seventy-five thousand, Alto, Lee county, thirty-three thousand, and several of the towns between Alto and Aurora twenty-five thousand dollars each, Pine Rock ten thousand dollars, Nashua five thousand dollars. After all these appropriations had been made Mr. Hinckley and his friends had no trouble in interesting New York capitalists to the extent of advancing a million dollars on a first mortgage, and late in the fall of 1870 grading commenced in Aurora, and on the thirty-first of December, 1870, the construction train reached Rochelle.

Concerning the appropriation of $75,000 by the township of Mount Morris toward the building of this railroad, the township clerk's record book says: "At a special town meeting held in the town of Mount Morris in the county of Ogle and state of Illinois, at the shop of A. W. Little, on the 30th day of June, A. D. 1870, to vote for or against a donation to the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company. The meeting was called to order by

Frederick B. Brayton, town clerk. M. T. Rohrer was on motion of Wm. H. Atchison duly chosen as moderator, who being duly sworn by F. B. Brayton, town clerk of said town, entered upon the duties of his office. The polls for the election for or against donation were opened, proclamation thereof being first made by the clerk." Following this is the poll list of 269 voters who participated, and the result of the election, as follows: For donation, one hundred and sixty-three votes: against donation, one hundred and six votes.

Here a word regarding these many donations will be in order. It was an exceedingly peculiar or rather remarkable piece of scheming and financiering on the part of Mr. Hinckley, who was really the principal owner of the road, how he managed, with little or no capital of his own to start with, to build and equip this railroad, by actual out-and-out donations, and came out in the end with a fortune. In fact it might literally be said that the people of Illinois deliberately handed him over a sufficient sum of money to build himself a railroad. Although the statement seems somewhat hyperbolical it is not far from the truth. The fact of the case is, the people were placed in a rather queer position with a difficult question to decide upon. Men came along and made propositions that if aid would be voted the railroad could be built and many well knew that the coming of the railroad would surely be worth to the community the amount of money to be paid,—$25,000, $50,000, or $75,000, etc., as the case might be,—but on the other hand there was that objection to the thought of deliberately handing over money to a man or company of men and creating for them fortunes, merely because they were in a position to ask it. This latter way of looking at the matter and other objections to these donations were evident to many people and there was of course a strong minority in opposition, and bitter animosities sprang up, which unfortunately are not allayed even yet in some places. The strong opposition by the minority in many towns caused quarrels, and much litigation was entailed upon the people in consequence. The majority of the people, however, believed the flattering tales which the railroad projectors told them, and willingly voted the aid requested, as mentioned before. They were led to believe that every man's farm would be a fortune if they would but aid liberally in the construction of railroads. After a time their dearly-bought experience led them to discover the folly of such a course, and in the latter part of 1870 they amended their constitution to prohibit such corporate action in an amendment to the organic law of the state providing that "no county, city, town, township or other municipality shall ever become subscriber to the capital stock of any railroad or private corporation, or make donation to, or loan its credit in aid of such corporation."

The minority, which had opposed the original voting of donations, took every opportunity to prevent the issuing of the bonds and also the payment after they had been issued, which action was the cause of the trouble afterward encountered by Mount Morris and, in fact, all points along the line. Many towns refused to issue the bonds voted, and some

actually avoided the payment by taking advantage of certain technical errors in regard to the legality of the elections when the donations were voted, or some trifling breach of the agreement on the part of the railroad company; others compromised, but many were compelled to pay the full amount, besides a great deal more to cover expenses incurred during litigation. Concerning Mount Morris's well-known unsuccessful attempt to avoid the payment, more is said farther on, in the chronological order of events.

As stated before, the Chicago & Iowa railroad was completed as far as Rochelle in December, 1870. It was farther completed from Rochelle to a point on the east bank of Rock river, opposite Oregon, April 1, 1871, and regular trains for passengers and freight put on. The bridge across Rock river was completed and the cars crossed it for the first time, October 20, 1871. During the summer of 1871 work progressed on the grading of the road between Oregon and Mount Morris, which was watched with great interest by the people of the township, delighted as they were at the thought of having a railroad. The first passenger train was run to Mount Morris November 12, and the people celebrated the event in grand style. An elegant public supper was given in honor of the railroad officials.

As soon as the road was completed to Forreston, a connection was made with the Illinois Central railroad, which opened a route from Chicago to Souix City, Iowa. A contract was made between the two roads by which the cars of the Illinois Central reached Chicago over the Chicago & Iowa railroad. New depots were erected along the line in 1872; through trains between Chicago and Dubuque were put on, and the road entered upon a period of good management and general prosperity. The Illinois Central continued to run trains over this road to Chicago until about 1888, when their own road was completed through Freeport and Rockford to that city.

The first station agent in Mount Morris was Mr. A. W. Brayton, now a prosperous druggist and book-seller in the village. His night operator was H. D. Judson, a young man who had made his home with the family of F. B. Brayton. Mr. Judson advanced rapidly in favor with the railroad company and is now superintendent of the road. He acted as night operator under A. W. Brayton and later succeeded Mr. Brayton as agent, with Samuel Rohrer and later "Bob" Lillie as night operators. The succession of agents and operators since that time cannot be definitely ascertained, but the following is probably nearly correct, the agent being mentioned first and the night operator second: C. E. Holbrook and Lyle Newcomer, Ed. L. Mooney and George Shank, Thomas Webb and F. F. Knodle (still a resident of Mount Morris), F. F. Knodle and J. D. Miller (now a harness dealer in Mount Morris), and since 1888, after the Illinois Central trains ceased running, and the night operator was dispensed with,—F. F. Knodle, Reuben Godfrey (three years), S. G. Brown (three years), and F. C. Remmer. Mr. Remmer, the present agent, attends well to the business of the road, is a genial and obliging young man and is well liked by both his employers and the patrons of the road. He first came to Mount Morris as

agent in October, 1895. Longer than the term of service of any of these agents is that of James Driscoll, who has been foreman of the section during the greater part of twenty-one years past.

The record of the big fight carried on by Mount Morris for so many years in an attempt to avoid the payment of the money voted to be donated to the railroad is in some respects a rather peculiar piece of history. The complications arising in the case render the task of tracing it one of great delicacy. As to the propriety of voting the donation of $75,000 in the first place there is of course a diversity of opinion, and also upon the right and wrong of attempting to evade the payment of the same, but it is not the purpose of this book to render any verdicts, one way or another, but merely to give the facts in the case. Undoubtedly the township has derived $75,000 worth of actual benefit from the presence of the railroad and would not part with it for that amount of money, or even for the larger amount actually being paid in consequence of the addition of interest during the period of litigation.

By the terms upon which the donation of $75,000 was voted by Mount Morris, the company was required to complete the road through the town before the bonds should be issued. While the work was progressing the people apparently somewhat regretted their liberality and the minority, who had strongely opposed the measure at the election, decided to do all in their power to prevent the issuing of the bonds. Consequently an injunction, signed by Daniel J. Pinckney, John W. Hitt, Jacob H. Mumma, John E. McCoy, Milton E. Getzendaner and John Sprecher, was drawn up and filed in the circuit court of Ogle county, praying that the township of Mount Morris be restrained from the issuing of bonds for the payment of the seventy-five thousand dollars, or any part thereof, or the interest thereon, or any part thereof; also to restrain the township from causing any tax to be levied for the payment of the same. In the writ, an alleged illegality of the election, when the donation was voted, was claimed as the pretext for filing the injunction. The injunction was temporarily granted and the case brought up in the circuit court. But while the slow processes of law were at work on the matter negotiations were in progress between Mr. Hinckley and Supervisor J. W. Hitt for an amicable settlement of the matter, and an agreement was finally reached to compromise the bond issue at $50,000. This arrangement was decided upon by the people at a special town meeting held March 19, 1875. Regarding this meeting and its action the old village record book has the following:

Special town meeting met at the shop of A. W. Little in persuance of call. On motion A. Newcomer, Esq., was chosen moderator and O. H. Swingley, secretary. On motion, the meeting adjourned to Seibert Hall. The hour of two o'clock. P. M., having arrived, the meeting proceeded to business. On motion the supervisor (J. W. Hitt) of the town of Mount Morris was requested to make a full statement to the meeting of all correspondence and negotiations that had taken place between himself and Mr. Hinckley with regard to the settlement of the claim of the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company against the town, whereupon the supervisor made a full statement of all that had taken place between himself and Mr. Hinckley, including Mr. Hinckley's proposition for a final settlement of the question at issue, *viz.*,

That the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company would accept bond to the amount

of $50,000 dated March 1, 1875, running not to exceed ten years, at ten per cent annual interest, or in lieu thereof $45,000 in cash in full liquidation of said claim. After full and free discussion the following resolutions were adopted without a dissenting voice.

RESOLVED, that after a full consideration of the terms of the proposition made by Mr. F. E. Hinckley, president of the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company through our supervisor to settle the claim of said company against the town, now in litigation, we regard said proposition as alike fair and honorable on the part of Mr. Hinckley, and are of the opinion that the same ought to be accepted in the same spirit in which it is offered.

RESOLVED, That fully recognizing the services rendered the town by the parties who, with honest and consistent purpose, have so persistantly contested the issue of the bonds of the town to the amount of $75,000 we are partly in favor of so arranging the settlement with Mr. Hinckley that they shall receive, at the expense of the town, the sum of sixteen hundred dollars ($1,600), being the amount they have expended in lawyers' fees, traveling expenses and court charges.

RESOLVED, That the parties in the suit and the town authorities be and are hereby requested to conclude the settlement without unnecessary delay.

On motion of A. Q. Allen, the following was offered and unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That we are largely indebted to our supervisor, J. W. Hitt, Esq., for the faithful, efficient and successful manner in which he has conducted these negotiations and guarded the interests of the town, and that a vote of thanks be and is hereby tendered him.

A. NEWCOMER.
Moderator.

O. H. SWINGLEY, Secretary.

In compliance with the above, bonds to the amount of $50,000 were issued to the railroad company and sold, the German Insurance Company of Freeport purchasing most of them. According to the above agreement the bonds and interest were to be paid in ten years and the matter rested quietly for seven years. Then again in 1882, seven years after the bonds had been issued, plans were again laid by the minority who opposed the payment, to restrain the officials from levying any tax at the expiration of the ten years with which to pay the bonds. Accordingly a second injunction was filed in the circuit court in that year by John Harmon, Samuel Domer, Daniel Fager and Reuben S. Marshall. The case came up in the circuit court shortly after and was finally decided against the town. It was then appealed to the supreme court of the state of Illinois and in the year 1888, was finally also settled there, the verdict again going against the town, and the injunction was dissolved, after a continuous term of lawing extending over a period of about six years.

The decision in 1888 by the supreme court dissolving the injunction did not yet bring the town to its last extremity and the payment was further staved off several years by electing town clerks and immediately sending them away, and paying them to stay away. It being necessary to have the signature of the clerk on the paper making the levy, this very effectually preventing the necessary levy and the owners of the bonds were still compelled to carry the indebtedness. Finally, however, as many people anticipated, the town was compelled to give up and the injudicious fight was discontinued. N. A. Watts became clerk of the town and not being willing to "skip" as his predecessors had done, the payment of the vast sum of money, then more than doubled by the accumulation of the ten per cent interest, became no longer avoidable and the levy was made

for the first payment,—the sum of $47,000,—which was collected by D. B. Keedy, in the spring of 1894. This large payment, more than three times as large as the usual tax, was met with considerable difficulty by many taxpayers, but with a year's notice to prepare for it, few people were actually crippled financially, and all were glad that the attempt was made after it had been paid. The heavy debt hanging over the town was a great menace to its prosperity, and it was certainly a wise measure to no longer delay its obliteration. Not only did the former condition of affairs drive people away who might have settled in the township, but the credit of the township was kept worthless. By this one stroke, the payment of the $47,000, Mount Morris was again put upon a solid financial basis and the best of credit restored.

The remaining $50,000 of the debt was disposed of by the issuing of new bonds to be paid off in yearly installments. A special town meeting was held to make this arrangement, the town clerk's record of which is as follows:

Special town election, held the ninth day of December, 1893, at the village hall, town of Mount Morris, Ogle county, Illinois, the form of ballot being as follows:

Proposed issue of twenty town bonds for $2,517.50 each, aggregating $50,350, bearing five per cent interest, one bond payable May 1st of each year till all are paid, commencing May 1st, 1894, the interest on all said bonds payable annually, said bonds to be issued in lieu of bonds held by the German Insurance Company, of Freeport, Illinois, the principal and interest of which will aggregate $50,350 May 1, 1894, and which are numbered 1, 2, 5, 9, 12, 14, 16, 21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47, for $500 each; and eleven bonds, numbered 57, 65, 66, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75, for $1,000 each, bearing ten per cent interest.

The result of this election was 250 votes in favor of issuing the bonds and 61 against. It seems, however, that these bonds were not accepted and new arrangements were necessary. The following petition was filed in the town clerk's office on the 30th day of April, 1894:

*To the Town Clerk of the Town of Mount Morris, Ogle County, Ill.:*

The undersigned legal voters of the town of Mount Morris, being residents therein respectively request and petition that a special election be called to submit to the voters of said town the question of issuing the bonds of said town of the third class to the amount of $57,600, consisting of 112 bonds of $500 each, and 16 bonds of $100 each, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, said bonds to be dated the first day of June, 1894, and be made payable at the office of the state treasurer, in the city of Springfield, Illinois, said bonds to be so issued that $3,600 thereof shall become due June 1st, 1895, and a like amount annually thereafter until all are paid; said bonds to be issued for the purpose of refunding the following indebtedness of the town of Mount Morris, to wit:

| | |
|---|---|
| Judgment of George W. Sanford, and interest | $ 4,738 32 |
| Judgment of Emma E. Pitt, and interest | 5,066 30 |
| Judgment of William Talcott, and interest | 4,520 48 |
| Judgment of Chester K. Williams, and interest | 32,537 40 |
| Judgment of A. A. Viele, and interest | 2,215 67 |
| Judgment of Catherine Randall, and interest | 2,315 96 |
| Bonds numbered 28, 48, 49 and 50 of $500 each, and bond numbered 67 for $1,000, issued to the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company | 6,535 12 |
| Total | $57,929 25 |

The above petition was signed by 49 legal voters of the town. In compliance with the petition a special election was called by posting ten notices in ten of the most public places in said town, also by notice being

published in the Mount Morris Index. The question of the issuing of new bonds, substantially as quoted in the above petition, was voted upon on the 26th day of May, 1894, the date set for the election, and the following result obtained: For issuing the bonds, 248 votes; against issuing the bonds, 43 votes. These bonds were then issued and accepted by the creditors of the town.

And thus the matter was finally amicably settled. The payment of the remaining portion of the debt continues each year in small installments which are not noticed in the least by the taxpayers of the township. The last payment will be made in the year 1909. Although these payments are being made each year, it is a fact that the rate of assessment in Mount Morris is as low and most cases lower than in the other towns in Ogle county. At the present time the credit of the town is restored, the ill-feelings engendered by the controversy concerning the bond case forgotten and " All is well."

# CHAPTER XII.

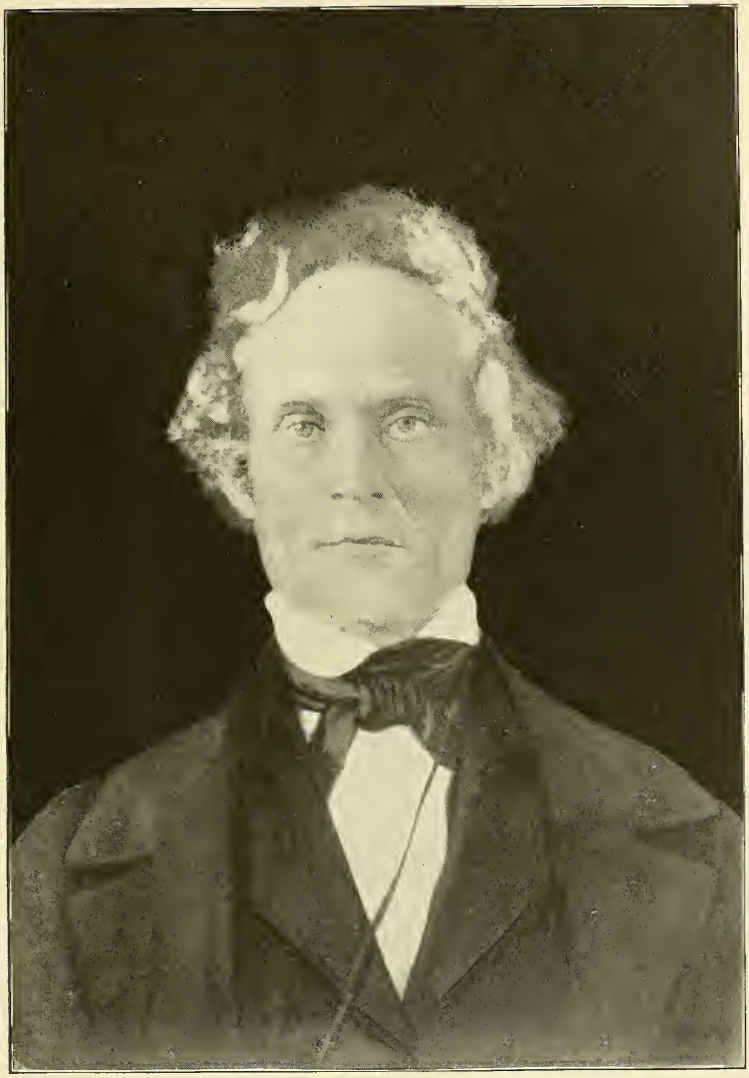
## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

The religious advantages of Mount Morris, both in the past and present, have been, and are, unexcelled in Northern Illinois. It is an undisputed fact that the morals among both the young and old in "The College Town" are above the average in any other places in the county or neighboring counties. The fact is often commented upon by visitors from abroad, and it is a condition continually boasted of by the people themselves, and by Mount Morris College in advertising the village as a safe place for young men and women, leaving their homes to get an education. The religious atmosphere of the place has always prevailed against the great evils common in many towns and kept the environments of its young people pure and clean and untainted. Open saloons were opposed from the time of the first settlements, as will be seen in the chapter on "Village Organization" and at other places in this volume. Open saloons have, in fact, been tolerated but on one or two occasions and at very short periods at that. For a score of years past there has not even been an attempt made to gain a saloon license. If license and anti-license were made an issue at a village election it would be voted down by an overwhelming majority, without doubt. Such is the sentiment which the churches of Mount Morris have created in the hearts of her good people.

Four Christian denominations are well represented in the village and township, and each has a commodious place of worship. And though they differ somewhat in faith and practice, still they dwell together in perfect harmony. Few places of like population can claim so many ministers, there being no less than fifteen or eighteen at one time, yet one never hears of any unpleasantness among them. In fact Mount Morris might be called the "Preachers' Paradise."

Of the four churches in Mt. Morris the history of the Methodist Episcopal dates back the farthest.

The first preaching in this part of Ogle county, at least the first under Methodist auspicies was by the Rev. Thomas S. Hitt, father of Hon. R. R. Hitt, a cultured and earnest local preacher, who came to this state in 1837 and settled with the Maryland colony. He entered a large tract of land, but devoted his time very largely to the development of the religious and educational interests of the country. He was in frequent demand for funerals, weddings, church dedications and educational meetings. He was largely instrumental in securing the seminary at this place, for which he contributed liberally, and by his influence and eloquence raised large amounts of money. As a pioneer preacher he did faithful work, and laid



*REV. THOMAS S. HITT.*
Father of Hon. R. R. Hitt and one of the promoters of early Methodism in Ogle county.

the foundation from which many strong churches have grown and prospered.

One who recollects Rev. Hitt as he was in vigorous manhood describes him as follows: "As a speaker he was interesting, with a clear musical voice, which expressed every shade of feeling. His language was choice and copious. In bearing he was dignified and easy and his gestures were natural and graceful. He stood six feet tall and seemed under all circumstances, in public or private, perfectly possessed."

He died September 23, 1852, having successfully planted Methodism in this section and giving its religious and educational interests an impulse that has been felt ever since.

Rev. Barton Cartwright was appointed to the charge, then part of a large circuit, in the fall of 1838.

Aug. 20, 1840, Rock River Conference was organized, at a camp-meeting held in the grove two miles northwest of town. Bishop Waugh was the presiding bishop and Rev. B. T. Kavanaugh, secretary.

The location of Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris, under the control of the Conference, gave the local church quite an impetus. When the first seminary building was completed in 1840, the north portion was used for church purposes, until the erection of the second building called "Old Sandstone," when the two lower stories of the east part were fitted up as a chapel and used by the church for about 25 years.

The location of the school gave the church considerable prestage during its earlier history and some of the strongest men of those times served it as pastors. It has been impossible to obtain a complete list previous to 1857, but the following list is nearly accurate: Revs. Thos. Hitt, Barton Cartwright, Worthington, McMurty, Snow, Walker, Wagner, Jewett, Judson, Stuff, Cone, Winslow, Keegan, Stoughton, Parks. Rev. Blanchard was pastor in 1857, followed by Rev. J. H. Vincent, now bishop, in 1859.

From 1860 until the present time the following pastors were assigned in their order: 1860, L. Anderson; 1863, W. A. Smith; 1865, J. H. More; 1867, W. A. Stout; 1868, C. R. Ford; 1869, S. H. Adams; 1872, L. Curts; 1875, E. M. Battis; 1876, E. W. Adams; 1878, A. T. Needham; 1879, James Bush; 1882, G. L. Wiley; 1885, Robert Proctor; 1887, R. Brown; 1890, J. H. Thomas; 1895, A. S. Mason; 1898, F. W. Nazarene.

For a number of years Mount Morris was the head of a district, and the home of the Presiding Elder. Among others who resided here while filling that office were Richard Haney, Hooper Crews, John Clark, Philo Judson and Luke Hitchcock.

The congregation worshipped in the seminary chapel until the school passed from the control of Rock River Conference in 1877. During the pastorate of Rev. E. W. Adams, the present edifice was erected at a cost of about $8,000. It is a beautiful and commodious building situated on the corner of Center and McKendrie streets. It has a large auditorium, with gallery, and lecture room, etc. It has been kept in thorough repair and remodled several times, and fully meets the necessities of the congregation. The first parsonage was erected in 1852, a grout building located

southwest of the seminary. It appears in a view from the seminary on page 54. It was used until 1890 when the present convenient house was erected, just south of the church.

The church has always stood well in the charges of Rock River Conference, and has constantly developed along all lines of church enterprise. At the present time it enjoys a good degree of prosperity, and has a good property free from debt. It contributes liberally for pastorial support, and the various benevolences of the church. The present membership is about two hundred. The Sunday school is in a prosperous condition, under supervision of Mr. Charles H. Sharer. The Epworth League, with A. M. Newcomer as president, is a very earnest and aggressive body of young

*METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.*

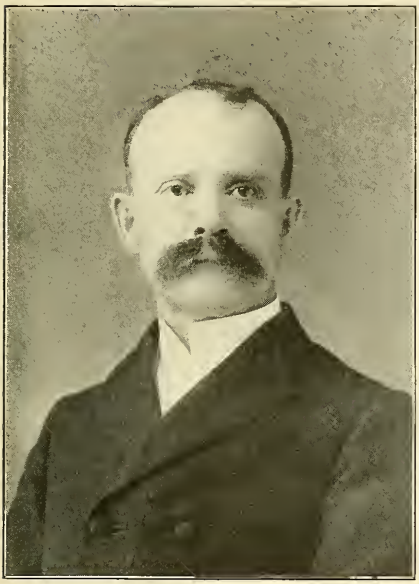
people. All the departments of church work are organized and are working harmoniously and successfully.

The sixtieth anniversary of the organization of the church at Mount Morris was celebrated with special services of an interesting nature, beginning Dec. 4, and closing Dec. 11, 1898.

Following is a short biographical sketch of Rev. F. W. Nazarene, the present pastor:

Rev. F. W. Nazarene, the youngest son of Frederick and Mary A. Nazarene, was born in Washington county, Md., January 25, 1856. He removed with his parent to Ogle county, Ill., in the spring of 1864. The first year of his sojourn in Illinois was spent at Mount Morris. In the spring of 1865 the family moved on a farm

near Brookville, and the following spring to Polo, where his parents resided until their death. His father died in June, 1898, and his mother in June, 1899. The subject of this sketch attended the public schools of Polo, graduating from the High School of that place in June, 1874. He spent some time teaching and then attended the Rock River Seminary, under the presidency of N. C. Dougherty. He united with the Polo M. E. church in 1875, and was licensed as a local preacher in 1877, and united with Rock River Conference in 1881, at which time he was ordained to Deacons orders by Bishop Wiley. He was ordained to Elders orders by Bishop Fowler in 1885, at which time he completed the four years theological studies prescribed by the Conference.



REV. F. W. NAZARENE.

His first pastoral charge was at Davis, Ill., where he labored for two years. The church there was greatly strengthened by a remarkable revival, and by the remodeling and repairing of the church building. The new church building at Rock City was also erected during this pastorate. This was followed by a full pastorate o three years at Orangeville, during which time a new church was erected on the charge. Successful and pleasant pastorates followed at Hanover, Shirland, Leaf River and Byron. In the autumn of 1892, on account of the failing health of his younger daughter, and by advice of physicians, he took a supernumerary relation to his Conference and moved to South Dakota, and served as pastor at Milbank and Aberdeen, two of the leading appointments of that Conference. In the fall of 1896 he went to Jameston, North Dakota, where he had one of the best years of his ministry. His daughter's health having been fully restored he returned to Rock River Conference in 1897, and the following February was appointed pastor of the Mount Morris church, it being his third pastorate in Ogle county. His work here has been pleasant and evidently satisfactory to the membership, as at the end of each succeeding Conference year the official board has given him a unanimous invitation to return. The church property has been thoroughly remodeled and improved during his pastorate, the finances all met and all the departments of the church are working pleasantly and harmoniously. On the first day of June, 1880, he was married to Miss Amy S. McHoes, the eldest daughter of Peter McHoes, of Davis, Ill. They have two daughters, Mary and Ida, both in school in this city; the former at the College, and the latter in the High School.

## Lutheran Evangelical Church.

The first Lutheran minister in this part of the state was Rev. N. J. Stroh who came from Pennsylvania in the fall of 1845 and settled at Oregon. He began preaching at once in Mount Morris every two weeks in the chapel of the old M. E. Seminary. In consequence of many conflicting appointments in the Chapel, he quietly withdrew and began holding services

in a schoolhouse a few miles from Mount Morris on the Oregon road. When a school house was built in Mount Morris he began preaching in that, but soon having more appointments than he could fill, he relinguished Mount Morris and Oregon to Rev. Nicholas Burket. Rev. Burket was succeeded in turn by Revs. Ephraim Miller and A. A. Trimper. Under the pastoral care of Rev. Trimper the congregation was fully organized and a constitution adopted which, with only fews changes, is still in force, though the exact date of the formal organization can not now be ascertained, as the earliest records have been lost. It seems that a church building was about this time begun, Rev. Stroh having solicited the funds, and on June 17, 1854, the corner stone was laid by Rev. Stroh, assisted by Rev. Dr. C. B. Thummel.

Rev. Geo. A. Bowers was pastor here for a season during which a "fine brick church" was dedicated May 2, 1856, at a cost of $3000.00, all "paid for by the active band."

On the 23rd of April, 1857, Mount Morris became a separate charge, having been in connection with Oregon to that date, though Rev. Bowers, pastor at Oregon, continued to preach here occasionally.

Rev. Cornelius Riemensnyder became pastor in April, 1858, and served one year. In October, 1859, came Rev. Daniel Schindler who likewise was pastor one year, when Rev. Ephraim Miller again took charge, continuing until Apr., 1863. Rev. Rufus Smith became pastor in May, 1864, and served for more than a year, during which time a parsonage was purchased, April 29, 1865, for $900.00. Rev. Whitehill came in October, 1867, and was succeeded in November, 1869, by Rev. A. Frick, who in turn was followed by Rev. L. L. Lipe in January, 1872, who continued in the pastorate until October, 1879.

In May, 1877, it was decided to select another location and build a new church costing $5,000, more or less, the work not to begin, however, until $3,500.00 had been provided for that purpose, independently of the old property. The cornerstone was laid September 30, 1877, Rev. Detweiler preaching the discourse. The church was dedicated November 10, 1878, the venerable Prof. Samuel Sprecher, D. D., L. L. D., Springfield, Ohio, delivering the sermon, after which $1800.00 were raised for the indebtedness. The church and furniture cost a little over $7000.00, the lot which was donated by Hon. R. R. Hitt not included.

Rev. J. W. Henderson, coming to the pastorate in October, 1879, and continuing until March, 1881, was followed by Rev. Max Lentz, July, 1881, who served until February, 1884. During his pastorate the old parsonage, now the improved property of Josiah Avey, was sold for $1,100.00, as had been the old church to the Christian denomination for $900.00 previously, the proceeds of both going to the payment of the indebtedness on the new church, which was fully met and cancelled by additional subscriptions.

A jubilee service was held June 29, 1883, when Rev. Haithcox, president of Northern Illinois Synod, preached a suitable sermon, after which Samuel Lookabaugh, the treasurer, read a report which showed that the organization had no indebtedness resting upon it, and from that time to

the present the congregation has always promptly met its financial obligations. It was likewise during the term of Rev. Lentz, in 1882, that the Synod of Northern Illinois held in this town its Thirty-second Annual Convention conjointly with the Fifth Annual Convention of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Synod; also that the four hundreth anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther was celebrated, November 10 and 11, 1883, when appropriate addresses were delivered by Prof. Carl W. Belsar, Hon. R. R. Hitt and others.

The church was without a pastor a year and a half after Rev. Lentz's departure but its pulpit was supplied the greater part of the interval by Prof. E. L. Bartholomew, then teaching in the College, and Rev. W.

*LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PARSONAGE.*

Eichelberger, of Virginia, who served the church by special arrangement for one month, closing with Easter Communion and fifteen accessions.

Rev. Edwin S. Hoffman became pastor in June, 1885, and closed his work in October the following year. Rev. L. Ford, pastor at Oregon, for a few years supplied the pulpit here every alternate Sabbath, until Nov. 1, 1890, when he severed his relation as pastor at Oregon, and began to give his whole time to Mount Morris. Meanwhile the present parsonage was erected at a cost of about twelve hundred dollars, the lot being given, as in the case of the church, by Mr. Hitt; also the roof of the church was reshingled, the building painted and a new furnace installed in the basement.

Rev. L. L. Lipe immediately followed Rev. Ford, beginning his second term as pastor here Nov. 1, 1897. A year ago the auditorium was handsomely repaired and decorated at an expense of about eight hundred dollars and the last summer about two hundred dollars were expended on the lower rooms, so that the interior of the church is now in excellent condition.

During its history this church, like all similar organizations, has enjoyed at intervals its seasons of special prosperity, and likewise experienced seasons of decline, but, all in all, there has been gradual growth and its present condition is both substantial and hopeful, numerically, spiritually and financially.

The present resident membership is about one hundred and twenty-five. The membership is amenable to the church council elected by the congregation and formally installed for a term of two years, the pastor being chairman. The present officers are A. E. Canode and W. H. Miller, elders, and S. Mumma, W. H. Jackson, C. E. Price and W. H. Swingley, deacons. Mr. Miller is likewise secretary of the council and treasurer.

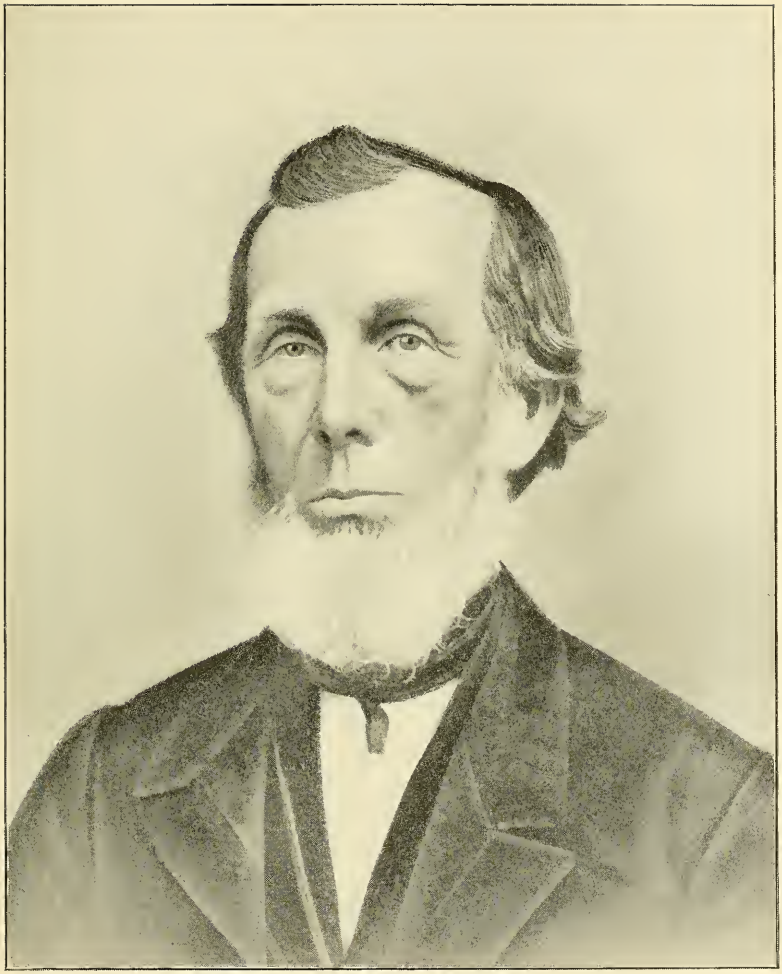
The Sunday school is under the superintendence of Mrs. Flora S. Lipe with an enrollment of about one hundred and thirty-five. The school is well organized, has good equipment in all respects and not only supports itself but contributes liberally towards the benevolences of the church at large. Mrs. Ella Winders is president of the Christian Endeavor Society which has at present a membership of about thirty and gives twenty-five dollars each year to the support of a missionary in Africa. The president of the Ladies' Aid Society is Mrs. Nellie Baker. This organization by its varied activities raises several hundred dollars every year which it appropriates as the needs of the church seem to require.

The Mount Morris church is in connection with the Synod of Northern Illinois which belongs to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran church in America, one of four large bodies into which the Lutheran church in this country is divided on account of differences in languages, religious customs and interpretation of certain articles of the Augsburg Confession which all Lutherans hold in common and to which its ministers are required to give their adherence. Members in general, however, are only asked to pledge themselves to the observance of a faithful Christian life and accept the doctrines of the Apostles' creed and give obedience to the disciplinary rules of the church. That great latitude in theological views is permitted in the ministry is evinced by the fact that within the last thirty years there has not been perhaps a single trial for heresy in the General Synod.

The Mount Morris church has recently enjoyed the rare privilege of entertaining for the second time the Synod of Northern Illinois which held its Fiftieth Annual convention here October 17, 1900, comprising in attendance about fifty ministers and delegates.

Biographical sketches of Rev. Stroh, and Rev. L. L. Lipe, the present pastor, will here be appropriate:

The Rev. Nicholas J. Stroh was, at the time of his death, the oldest Evangel-



*REV. N. J. STROH.*
Pioneer Lutheran minister; Died January 1, 1897.

ical Lutheran minister in the Synod of Northern Illinois and probably in the United States. More than sixty of the ninety-nine odd years of his long life were spent in active ministerial duties. Forty of these years were devoted to work in Illinois. He was licensed at Lebanon, Pa., in 1823. His last charge was at West Grove, northwest of Mount Morris, and after the termination of his connection there he lived in Mount Morris, retired from the active duties of the ministry, until his death on Jan. 1, 1897.

He was familiarly known as "Father Stroh." The name of his father before him was the same as his own, and the senior Stroh was a well-to-do farmer of Pennsylvania. He was a successful business man and passed the greater portion of his life in Dauphin county in that state.

Mr. Stroh was born May 5, 1798, in Dauphin county, and received his education partly in the public schools of his native state, and was an attendant at the schools of his native county. He early formed a resolution to enter the ministry, and was fitted for that calling under the instruction of private tutors. He first entered upon his classical and theological studies under the preceptorship of his brother-in-law, Rev. J. N. Hemping, of Lykin's Valley, Dauphin Co., Pa., and later he continued his studies with Rev. George Lochman, D. D., of Harrisburg. After being licensed to preach in the year named, he was assigned (in connection with Rev. A. H. Lochman) to home missionay work, in the northwestern counties of his native state, in which he was for a short time engaged. After the expiration of his missionary tour, he received a pressing invitation to locate in Lewistown, Miflin Co., Pa., where he organized the first Evangelical Lutheran church, besides other organizations in different parts. He officiated in the interests of the Lewistown church for some time. Previous to his efforts there the church was chiefly Mennonites.

He next accepted a call to Newville, Cumberland Co., Pa., where he conducted the organizing of several Lutheran churches, and, after a service there of more than five years, he divided his work, and located at Shippersburg, where he remained about seven years. A part of his field of labor was in Franklin county, in the same state. Later he went to Mechanicsburg in the south of Cumberland county and preached there for a period of five years. While engaged in furthering the interests of his church in his native state, he founded at least a dozen church socities, and placed them on a firm and enduring basis.

In the fall of 1845 he came to Illinois. Oregon, in Ogle county, where he located, was then in its primary days, and consisted of but a few houses. He was occupied in the duties of his calling there for eighteen months, and during that time he founded a church society of his own denomination, which is still in good working order. His next field was at Mount Morris, where he located on a farm in the vicinity of the village; he had purchased it while at Oregon, the conditions making it necessary for him to give part of his energies and attention to the pressing necessities of the growing wants of his family, the church organization not being sufficiently large to supply them in the usual way.

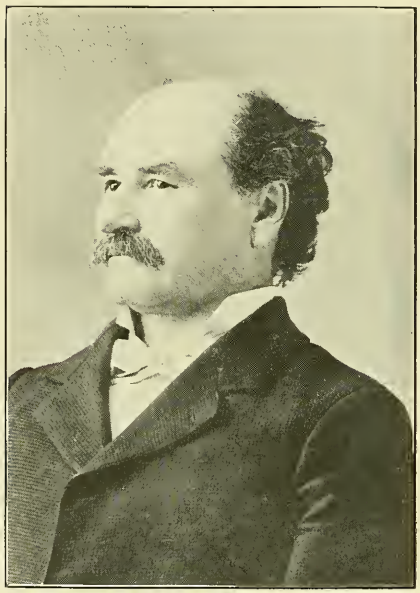
After removal here, he built churches and formed several socities of the Lutheran denomination. He also improved a farm on which he made his home. He continued his connection with the duties of an active ministerial life until about 1880, and has since relinquished regular labor in that avenue. His life was one of useful effort and, in the best sense, one of success.

Mr. Stroh and Miss Elizabeth Givler were joined in marriage in 1827, in Pennsylvania. She was a native of the same section of the county as himself, and was born Dec. 2, 1807. Her parents were natives of the Keystone state, also, where they passed the entire course of their lives. Of ten children born to them only five survive: Mrs. Maria Shultz, of Mount Morris; Mrs. Martha E. Sprecher, of Chicago; Gustavus, of Elgin; Mrs. Augustus C. Riner, of Kansas City; and Mrs. Josephine Clark, of Mount Morris.

Luther L. Lipe, the subject of this sketch, is Germanic in blood, belonging to the fourth generation born in America. The father, Daniel Lipe, and the mother, Matilda Walter, were both natives of Cabarras county, North Carolina, and joining in marriage at an early age, two years later they migrated to Illinois, reaching their destination in Montgomery county, in the fall of 1834. Here they invested a few hundred

dollars in government prairie land, erected thereon a log hut in the fringe of adjacent woodland, and began thus the pioneer life of hard work, bitter self-denial and rigid economy, which enabled them eventually to own a large and well-improved farm. Upon this farm, seven miles north of Hillsboro, this sturdy couple lived until 1868, when they removed to Sterling, where the mother died at the age of seventy-nine and the father at the age of eighty-six. Both had from childhood been members of the Lutheran church.

Ten children were born to these parents, six daughters and four sons, all of whom are yet living except the third daughter, who died in young motherhood. Luther L. was the sixth child and the third son. Reared on the farm, he went regularly to the district school until seventeen years of age, when he began his collegiate and theological education at Springfield, Ill., and which was uninterruptedly continued in Pennsylvania College, and completed in the Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, in 1870. Ordained to the Gospel ministry of the Lutheran church in September, 1871, by the Synod of Northern Illinois, in January following he became pastor of the church at Mount Morris, remaining until the last of September, 1879. While pastor here Mr. Lipe was wedded to Miss Flora Stager, youngest child of John S. Stager, Esq., Sterling, Ill., in November, 1872, and two children were born to them; John Stager, who died at the age of eleven months, and some years later Olive was given to them, their last born and only living child.



*REV. L. L. LIPE.*

The congregation prospered and in 1878 the old brick church in the east part of the town was relinguished for a more eligible site, and the beautiful house of worship completed at a cost of over seven thousand dollars.

The next pastorate was in Dixon, beginning October 1, 1879, and lasting until August, 1885, — very happy and successful years for both pastor and people, — when he went to Lincoln, Nebr., in charge of the Women's Second Memorial, St. Mark's church, an important mission. Mr. Lipe happily avows that it was here that he met with his first and last serious disappointment in his ministerial career; when a fine central location had been purchased; the plan of a new and costly church edifice adopted: the bids of contractors on file with the building committee and the required funds practically secured,—at this last hour personal ambition to change and control location engendered strife, causing serious division, and the whole project was defeated.

Three years were next spent in West Point, Nebraska. The church building was doubled in its capacity by large additions, the membership greatly increased in numbers and all departments flourished. This place was likewise a mission.

September 1, 1892, he went to Sharon, Wis. The church had been rent asunder by bitter contention and personal animosities, and two full years were required to unite the forces in church fellowship again. Dissatisfied with the business management of the church which he had tried in vain to improve, at the end of five and a half years as pastor there Mr. Lipe withdrew and again assumed charge at Mount Morris, November 1, 1897. In the summer of 1899 the auditorium was renovated and im-

proved, at a cost of about eight hundred dollars and the basement has just undergone similar changes at an expense of about one hundred and seventy-five dollars. The membership, on the whole, heartily co-operates with the pastor and the church, and all its organized departments are regarded as in good condition. The Synod has at different times entrusted to Mr. Lipe highly responsible duties as its secretary and president for several terms, trustee of Carthage college a number of years, and delegate to the General Synod on several occasions. He solemnly avers, however, that he is best satisfied when quietly and exclusively in pursuit of the welfare of his own church and people.

## Christian Church.

The Christian church (Disciples of Christ) of Mount Morris was organized in March, 1880, by State Evangelist J. H. Wright with about forty charter members. Prior to 1880 there were probably about a dozen members of this faith living in Mount Morris. The Christian church at Pine Creek was the nearest place where they could worship according to their faith and frequently they were in attendance at that place. During the fall of 1879, Rev. D. G. Howe, pastor of the Lanark Christian church, conducted a series of revival meetings here, lasting over three weeks, during which time about fifteen converts were made. These with those already members of the church immediately decided to establish a church in Mount Morris, and after extended negotiations finally purchased the brick edifice in the eastern part of the town, which had been property of the Lutheran church and been used by them for many years, but was vacant on account of the building of their new edifice in the west part of town. For this property they paid $900 and during the winter of 1879–'80 several hundred dollars more were expended in repairing the church,—painting it inside and out, building the steeple, furnishing the interior with new seats and putting in the baptistry under the pulpit and the dressing rooms on either side.

After the building had been prepared for occupancy, occurred the organization of the church by State Evangelist J. H. Wright, in March, 1880, as previously mentioned. Jacob Keedy, W. S. Blake and Joseph Wagner were chosen the first trustees; Dr. Mershon and C. G. Blakslee, elders; and W. S. Blake and Scott Kennedy as deacons. For about a year the organization conducted its own services, until 1881, when Rev. G. W. Ross was engaged as pastor, dividing his time equally with the Pine Creek congregation. Rev. J. H. Carr came next in the spring of 1885 and remained two years, and was followed by Rev. D. R. Rowe, who came over from Lanark every two weeks to preach. His pastorate was brief and the Rev. G. W. Pearl took charge, alternating every other Sunday with the Pine Creek congregation. Following him came in succession the Revs. T. B. Stanley, C. T. Spitler, J. B. Wright and H. G. Waggoner, all of whom devoted their entire time to the charge, each remaining about two years with the exception of Messrs. Spitler and Waggoner, who were here only about one year. After the departure of Rev. Waggoner the church was without a pastor about a year, until Rev. D. F. Seyster, the present pastor, took charge in February, 1900. Rev. Seyster lives at Pine Creek and divides his time between the Mount Morris and Pine Creek churches.

At present the congregation is enjoying prosperity, meeting all financial obligations with ease. They make frequent donations to missions and support their pastor liberally. The membership is about 100.

A Sunday School with a membership of about 75 meets each Sabbath morning at 9:30 o'clock. Prior to June, 1900, A. B. Keller, a student of Mount Morris College, had been superintendent for several years. Since

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

that time Miss Ada Allen has filled the office with credit, and with an efficient corps of young teachers is doing a good work among the young people.

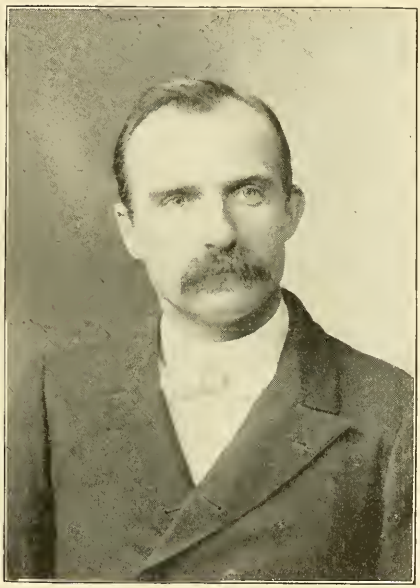
The Christian Endeavor Society, which meets each Sunday evening, is a band of enthusiastic young Christian workers, under the guidance of Miss Winnie Doward, president of the society. Their meetings are interesting and helpful to themselves and their visitors.

The Ladies' Aid Society does much toward raising the necessary finances of the church. Mrs. John Fridley is president of the society.

Following is a biography of Rev. D. F. Seyster, present pastor of the church:

Rev. David Franklin Seyster is a native of the township of Pine Creek, where he was born June 14, 1858. He is a son of David and Catherine Seyster, who were born in Washington county, Md., and who were well known in the country to which they removed in its early days. The father was born in 1826 and the mother in 1829 and their marriage took place in their native country in 1853. The father was reared in Ogle county, and was educated in the common schools of his township. When ready to settle down in life he returned to Maryland for his wife. They entered 120 acres of land in section 10 in Pine Creek township, in the year of their marriage, the tract being entered at the land office at Dixon, and is registered as the last piece of land entered in the state of Illinois, the land office being closed the day succeeding that on which they took out the papers. The father remained on this possession until he owned 300 acres of land. He died in 1864. His widow married John M. Kennedy some twelve years later and is still a resident of Pine Creek.

David Franklin, the subject of this sketch, is the youngest of the three living members of their family of six children. He attended the country school of his district and later the Polo high school several years, after which he engaged in teaching school in the district in which he had himself been a pupil and in summers he operated as a farmer. He served as township assessor and in the Pine Creek Sunday school filled the position of superintendent for seven or eight years. Mr. Seyster finally decided to enter the ministry, and preached his first sermon at LeClair, Ia., Feb. 12, 1888. He was called to the pastorate of the Coleta church in March, 1889, supplying the pulpit at the Pine Creek church half of the time. In the fall of 1889 he resigned to attend Eureka College. Five years were spent in study there, during which time he preached on Sundays at Kempton, Roanoke and Woodhull. In 1894 he graduated from the Eureka College, having completed the classical course and done part of the work in a theological course.



REV. D. F. SEYSTER.

Immediately after graduation, Rev. Seyster was called to take charge of the Central Christian church of Kankakee, Ill., and spent three and one-half years of successful work there. In the fall of 1897 he came to Pine Creek to visit the scenes of his childhood and commenced a series of revival meetings in the Pine Creek church. His efforts were rewarded with wonderful success, there being forty-six accessions.

In the fall of 1897, he resigned the charge at Kankakee to accept a call to the Lynnville (Ill.) church, where he continued until February, 1900. Since that time he has had charge of the churches at Mount Morris and Pine Creek and is leading them both very successfully. Mr. Seyster has experienced particularly good success in evangelistic work, as evidenced by his work at the Pine Creek church in 1897, mentioned above.

## Brethren Church.

The German Baptist Brethren or Dunkard church is the strongest denomination in Mount Morris and differs radically in point of faith and practice from the other three. Their most distinctive feature is their form of dress, which, like everything else about their mode of worship, is required to embody principles of plainness and simplicity.

The first church of this denomination in Ogle county was at West Branch, about seven miles northwest of Mount Morris, in Lincoln township, where the few members in Mount Morris township worshipped for a number of years. Finally in the year 1867 the territory of the West Branch church was divided and a new church established in Mount Morris township, about four miles northeast of Mount Morris, what is now known as the Silver Creek church, with a membership of about 100. Eld. D. E. Price was put in charge of it and continued its elder for many years. From 1867 until about 1879, the Brethren residing in the village of Mount Morris attended services at this church at Silver Creek.

In the year 1879, as previously mentioned in detail in this volume, the Old Rock River Seminary, which had been conducted by the Methodist denomination for so many years, became the property of several members of the Brethren church, and although it continued the property of individuals, it became a strictly Dunkard school, conducted in strict accordance with the rules of the church. The members of the faculty selected were nearly all members of the church and together with their families and other people of the denomination who were drawn here to educate their children or for other purposes, soon formed quite a colony of the Brethren, living in the village. They began immediately to hold religious services in the old seminary chapel and soon formed a strong church, with many able members.

The entire membership of the old Silver Creek church, the Mount Morris church, and of the Salem church, later established in Pine Creek township, south of town, was known as the Silver Creek congregation and still continues under that name. Eld. David E. Price, first elected elder of the Silver Creek church in 1867, has been re-elected each year and still holds that position, after a term of faithful service of thirty-three years. The church here in Mount Morris soon outstripped the formerly strong Silver Creek church and by gradual growth each year has now attained a membership of 275 persons residing in the village alone. The entire Silver Creek congregation, however, including the Silver Creek and Salem churches has a membership of over four hundred. The church is governed by an official board consisting of the presiding elder, his associate ministers and deacons. The present deacons of the congregation are Willoughby Felker, Wm. Gaffin, David Emmert, Wm. Price, Lewis Miller, A. M. Flory, Ernest Long, Prof. G. E. Weaver and Henry Mumma.

Financially, the church is in the best of circumstances. There is no salary paid any of the ministers but the members give over $1,500 yearly for benevolences. Of this from $1,100 to $1,300 goes to defray expenses of the church and about $300 or $400 applied to home and foreign missions.

The money for the church expenses is raised by regular taxation, each property owner paying according to his means. The younger members who have no property make volunteer contributions. The money raised for missionary purposes is made up entirely by volunteer contributions.

The members of the Mount Morris Brethren church are far ahead of the great majority of churches in the way of religious advantages for their spiritual advancement. The presence of the college adds many individuals of ability to its ranks who can readily take prominent part in services of all kinds. Among the professors are always a number of ordained ministers of the gospel and together with an exceptionally large number of resident preachers who have been drawn to Mount Morris by its exceptional religious and educational advantages, give the church much prestige. Regular attendants at the College chapel have opportunity to hear a great variety of sermons as no one man seldom preaches there oftener than once in two or three months. Then, too, it is very frequent that visiting ministers, some of the best in the Brotherhood, preach in the chapel on Sundays or hold long revival services during the winter time. The attendance during the school year, while the students are here nearly equals that of the other three churches combined, especially on Sunday evening in the winter.

ELD. D. L. MILLER.

Besides the advantage of an endless change of its ministerial appointments, the frequent occurrence of enlivening revival meetings, and the vim and vigor of all doings of the church, due to the presence of the large ministerial force, the Mount Morris congregation has access each year to a two-weeks' special Bible term at the college. Frequently, the church has the pleasure of entertaining large gatherings of the Brethren, such as the District meeting, Sunday School and Ministerial meetings, etc., with delegates from all over Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin, which add much to the interest of the local members in church work.

Prominent among those who have served the church as ministers in the past and helped build it up to its present strength, are Elds. D. E. Price, D. L. Miller, J. H. Moore, J. G. Royer and Joseph Amick. Elder Price is already mentioned as having served the church as the presiding

elder for thirty-three years. During this period he has devoted much time to the duties of his office, and deserves much credit for the harmony and the standard of loyalty which he has preserved among the members. Eld. D. L. Miller is another to whom the church is deeply indebted. He has spent over twenty years in Mount Morris connected with the Brethren Publishing Company and Mount Morris College. His travels in Europe and the Bible Lands make him one of the best informed men in the Brotherhood and one of their very best preachers. When it comes his turn to preach in the chapel he is always greeted by a very large audience. Mr. Miller is also a lecturer of ability, having in the past few years given hundreds of "talks," as he prefers to call them, concerning his travels in the Bible Lands, which are illustrated by the use of a fine stereopticon. A more extended biography of Mr. Miller appears in the biographical directory in the rear of this book. Eld. J. H. Moore, while pursuing his work as one of the editors of the Gospel Messenger, preached in his turn and took active part in the affairs of the church. He is a deep thinker and presented weighty sermons. His removal to Elgin with the Brethren Pub

*PARTIAL VIEW IN COLLEGE CHAPEL.*

lishing House was much regretted as was also that of Eld. Joseph Amick, business manager of the publishing house and Galen B. Royer, secretary of the General Missionary and Tract Committee. Both of these gentlemen were able preachers and were prominent in the church here. Prof. J. G. Royer, like Eld. D. E. Price, still remains with the church to continue his long term of usefulness. His sermons are second to none in point of excellence to any clergyman in Mount Morris. A portrait of Prof. Royer appears on page 111 and a biography on page 113. Eld. Simon E. Yundt, who moved to California in the fall of 1900, was an elder in the church about five years and a valuable member of the ministerial force. He did some evangelistic work during his last year here. Profs. J. E. Miller and D. D. Culler of the college, who went to other fields in the summer of 1900, were ministers of the church and for a number of years previous to their removal preached able sermons to the people in their turn.

At the present time, besides Elds. D. E. Price, D. L. Miller, and J. G. Royer, already mentioned, the ministerial force of the church contains Elds. D. E. Brubaker, W. G. Cook and Ephraim Trostle, Prof. W. L. Eikenberry and M. W. Emmert. Eld. Brubaker is a pleasing speaker and

THE OLD FOLKS' HOME OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH.

spends considerable time in late years conducting revival meetings at various places. Eld. Cook but recently moved to Mount Morris from Dakota where he had been preaching in a country church. Eld. Trostle came to Mount Morris in November, 1900, having previously lived north of town, and preached principally in the Silver Creek church. Prof W. L. Eikenberry attends to occasional ministerial duties along with his work in the college. He is a good sermonizer. A portrait of Prof. Eikenberry appears on page 111 and his biography on page 114. M. W. Emmert is one of the best of the younger preachers. He is at present teaching and doing some work in the college. See biography on page 116.

There are also living in Mount Morris a number of superannuated ministers, who have done some preaching and occasionally fill the chapel pulpit or the pulpits at Silver Creek and Salem. Among them are Emanuel Newcomer and Isaac Barnhizer.

The ministerial force of the Mount Morris Brethren church is also often augmented by young ministers who are attending the college. Such is the case during the present school year, 1900–1901. At the quarterly council meeting of the church held in Mount Morris in July, 1900, two new ministers were elected, viz.,—Prof. A. L. Clair, of the college, and Nelson Shirk, son of Levi Shirk of this place. They will be ordained after the proper preparation has been made.

The Brethren Sunday school meets at 11 o'clock each Sunday with an attendance in the summer of between 150 and 175 pupils and in the winter, during the session of college, about 250 pupils. It is divided into two distinct sections, the primary and advanced. M. W. Emmert is superintendent of the former and Nelson Shirk of the latter. The weekly contributions amount to between three and five dollars, all of which goes to missions. Experienced corps of teachers are engaged in this work.

The spiritual vim of the members of the church is kept from flagging by two prayer-meetings,—one Sunday evening and one Thursday evening. On Sunday evening there are senior and junior sections, the latter being attended by the younger members of the church and the students. Among the students are always a considerable number of young men who are preparing for the ministry and young ladies who expect to do missionary work, and together they have very enjoyable and profitable meetings. In the senior section there is also plenty of talent to discuss the questions adopted for each week's consideration. On Thursday evening the two sections combine.

The church also has a Sisters' Aid Society, a missionary society and a missionary reading circle.

The future of the church is very encouraging. Mount Morris College which is now almost entirely property of the general Brethren church, continues as one of the foremost of the several colleges under the surveillance of the denomination, and prospects for its further advancement are very bright, which of course means further prestige for the local church.

On the preceding page is a view of the Old Folks' Home in Mount Morris, which, like the college, is under the control of the Brethren. It

is owned and supported by the District of Northern Illinois. In 1895 this division of the church appointed Elds. Jos. Amick, Edmund Forney and Melchor Newcomer a committee to incorporate and found a home for aged members of the church, and orphans. Mount Morris was selected as a suitable location and their present spacious building erected on a 15-acre patch in the south edge of the village in 1895 at a cost of about $10,000. The funds for its establishment were donated by the various churches in the district. An endowment fund of about $18,000 for its support was created by Jacob Petrie of Polo who willed his estate for the establishment of the home. This fund has been raised to over $20,000 and is expected to reach the $30,000 mark in the near future. At present about twenty-five aged members of the church are being taken care of in the home. A new building will be built in course of several years. Already an addition costing $1,500 has been built. The present trustees are Jos. Amick, Willoughby Felker and D. L. Miller. Lewis Miller is superintendent, having succeeded Levi Kerns in that position.

# CHAPTER XIII.

## SECRET ORGANIZATIONS.

One of the prominent elements in the make-up of man is his desire for associatian with his fellow creatures. This, together with the natural feeling of fraternal regard which exists between men, has been the means of the organization of hundreds of religious and civil denominations and societies, clubs, and fraternities. Among civil societies are many which are organized mainly for purposes of insurance and others merely for the fraternal and social benefit to its members. Every town or hamlet of whatever size has one or more of these societies.

At the present time Mount Morris has seven secret societies, viz.,—the Grand Army of the Republic, Modern Woodmen of America, Masons, Odd Fellows, Rebeccas, Maccabees, and Knights of the Globe, histories of which are here appended.

### Grand Army of the Republic.

The G. A. R. is not a secret society in the exact sense of the other six mentioned, but from the fact that its meetings are not public, and the object of its organization is for the mutual benefit of its members, it can properly be classed with the others. In connection with this, the war history of Mount Morris township will be in order.

In the year 1861, as every one knows, the United States was plunged into a long and bloody war,—the South pitted against the North in terrific struggle, lasting over four long years. During this time President Lincoln made eleven separate calls for volunteers to help suppress the rebellion. Among the 3,339,748 men who responded to these calls were many loyal citizens from Mount Morris township, who left their homes and families and sacrificed all in defense of their country's flag. The following list of names of men who enlisted from Mount Morris township is complete as far as obtainable:

*15th Illinois Infantry.*

Capt. Wm. H. Gibbs, company H.
Adjutant Geo. Q. Allen, company H.
Judd L. Bond, company H.
Carlton R. Cheney, company H.
Levi Palmer, company H.
Jasper C. Washburn, company H.
Charles F. Neff, company H.
O. W. Newton, company H.

*23rd Illinois Infantry.*

Peter Freerkson.

*34th Illinois Infantry.*

Major J. McClelland Miller, company H.
Capt. Henry H. Newcomer, company H.
Capt. Peter Householder, company H.
Lieut. Benj. R. Wagner, company H.
2nd Lieut. John M. Smith, company H.
Corp. Robert C. Heister, company H.
Corp. Wm. J. Fouke, company H.
Corp. Charles Fletcher, company H.
Corp. Levi R. Holsinger, company H.
Corp. Luther M. Stroh, company H.
Thomas J. Avey, company H.

Wm. H. Coggins, company H.
Davis B. Meridith, company H. Killed at Resaca, Ga.
John A. Noel, company H. Killed at Shiloh.
John H. Sharer, company H.
Harrison Sage, company H.
Daniel B. Turney, company H. Killed at Shiloh.
Thomas W. Withers, company H.
Jacob H. Withers, company H.
Nehemiah Wagner, company H.
Capt. David C. Wagner, company K.
Dr. Francis A. McNeill, surgeon.

*46th Illinois Infantry.*

Capt. Frederick H. Marsh, company E.
Jasper N. Stonebraker, company E.
Elaphilet J. Stonebraker, company E.

*69th Illinois Infantry.*

John H. Pritchard, company K.

*140th Illinois Infantry.*

Capt. James H. Cartwright, company I.
Sergeant Wilbur A. McNeill, company I.
Sergeant Henry Stewart, company I.
Alfred E. Stroh, company I.
Fenton F. Skinner, company I.
James N. Smith, company I.
Elisha Wolford, company I.
Samuel R. Blair, company I.
Daniel Castle, company I.
Geo. W. Davis, company I.
L. L. Davis, company I.
Luther D. Potter, company I.
John K. Palmer, company I.
Benjamin Rine, company I.

*142nd Illinois Infantry.*

Henry Hiestand, company D.

*92nd ~~149th~~ Illinois Infantry.*

Sergeant Benj. F. Hiestand, company D. Died at Andersonville Prison.
1st Lieut. G. W. Marshall, company K.
Geo. W. Fouke, company K.
James B. Cheney, company K.
Thomas Coggins, company K.
Geo. W. Anderson, company K.
Thos. W. Carter, company K.
Robert Crosby, company K.
John S. Fish, company K.
Spenser V. Miller, company K.
Charles T. Marsh, company K.
Charles B. Potter, company K.
Muhlenburg Stroh, company K.
August Stahlhut, company K. Wounded, and died at Andersonville prison.
Wm. S. Speraw, company K.
Wm. H. Sheets, company K.
Eli G. Withers, company K.
David B. Turney, company K.
Dr. Thomas Winston, surgeon.

*U. S. Colored Infantry.*

Jesse Crawford.

*2nd Illinois Cavalry.*

Daniel Shaw, company A.
Francis Turney, company A.

*4th Illinois Cavalry.*

Jesse O. Allen, company D.
Alfred M. Doward, company D.
Augustus Fenton, company D.
Wm. Householder, company D.
Thomas M. Hitt, company D.
Thomas L. Potter, company D.
Henry Rice, company D.
Isaiah Rowland, company D.
John E. Withers, company D.
Eli G. Withers, company D.
Wm. Wolfe, company D.
Sergeant M. H. Wallace, company E.
Franklin Black, company E.
Andrew M. Glasgow, company E.
Capt. Joseph E. Hitt, company M.
Edwin Fenton, company M.
Quartermaster John W. Hitt, company D (consolidated).

*7th Illinois Cavalry.*

Andrew Sharp, company B.

*12th Illinois Cavalry.*

Capt. John F. Wallace, company L.
Lieut. Oliver H. Swingley, company L.

*14th Illinois Cavalry.*

Lieut. Isaac H. Allen, company D.
Wm. E. McCready, company E.
Reynolds Fouke, company E.

Major Chas. Newcomer, Paymaster in Department of the Cumberland.

After the close of the war many veterans, who had enlisted in Maryland and other eastern states, settled in Mount Morris township. The following roll call of the dead contains the names of a number of them, who made Mount Morris their home for a number of years but whose

SOME OF THE VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR RESIDING IN MOUNT MORRIS TOWNSHIP.

names do not appear in the foregoing list, from the fact that they enlisted elsewhere. Most of them lie buried in one or the other of the two cemeteries near Mount Morris. Following is the list:

Allen, Isaac H.
Corning, W. R.
Coggins, T. C.
Carter, T.
Cheney, J. G.
Castle, D.
Craddock, J.
Crawford, J.
Cheney, C.
Fletcher, C.
Freerkson, Peter
Fish, J.
Fenton, E.
Granger, J.
Hitt, Joseph
Hickman, August
Householder, William
Hosking, J. M.
Hiestand, B. F.
Herbert, H.
Heister, R. C.
Kerns, Wm.
Long, A. R.
Long, J. T.
McNeill, F. A.
Mundabaugh, S. J.
Merriman, C.
Miller, J. McClelland
Neff, C.
Newcomer, H. H.
Newcomer, Dr. D.
Noel, J. A.
Pike, W.
Potter, C.
Stroh, A.
Shaw, D.
Stahlhut, A.
Sharp, A.
Smith, J. M.
Stroh, M.
Sage, W. H.
Shumway, E.
Stuckenburg, F.
Turney, D.
Thompson, G. W.
Typer, A.
Wallace, J.
Withers, T.
Wagner, B. F.
Wilson, J.
Wallace, M.
Wallace, Wm.
Withers, H.
Welty, S. F.
Worley, W.
Wolfe, W.

The J. M. Smith Post No. 720, G. A. R., was organized in August of 1892. The object of its organization is that the old soldiers may properly care for each other in time of sickness or adversity and further, for their social and fraternal benefit.

The first commander elected was Joseph M. Hosking, who served two and one-half years. Following him, Peter Householder served two years; R. D. McClure, one year; Ed. Slater, one year; H. C. Clark, two years; and Joseph Baker, the present commander, is serving his first year. The other officers chosen at the last election are: F. D. Fouke, Senior Vice Commander; L. L. Davis, Junior Vice Commander; G. W. Davis, Chaplain; Dr. D. Newcomer (deceased), Surgeon; Captain Peter Householder, Adjutant; H. C. Clark, Quartermaster; B. F. Tracy, Officer of the Day; Oliver Beard, Officer of the Guard.

Following are the names of the members of the Post and also the veterans living in the township who have not identified themselves with the organization:

Oliver Beard, 2d Md. Inf.
Uriah Brantner, 142d Ill. Inf.
A. R. Binkley, 140th Ill. Inf.
S. R. Blair, 140th Ill. Inf.
J. T. Baker, 69th Ill. Inf.
Robert Crosby, 192d Ill. Mounted Inf.
H. C. Clark, 37th Mass. Inf.
P. Householder, 34th Ill. Inf.
James Stevens, 9th Pa. Cav.
Chas. Unger, 21st Pa. Cav.
John Small, 15th Ill. Inf.
Daniel Ridenour, 2nd Pa. Heavy Artillery.
Ed. McCready, 14th Ill. Cav.
Benj. Rine, 140th Ill. Inf.
F. D. Fouke, 7th Ill. Inf.
J. E. Withers, 4th Ill. Cav.
A. M. Doward, 4th Ill. Cav.
R. D. McClure, 2d Pa. Inf.
H. L. Smith, 2d Ill. Cav.
G. W. Davis, 140th Ill. Inf.
L. L. Davis, 140th Ill. Inf.
Rigdon McCoy, 7th Md. Inf.
B. F. Tracy, 1st Ill. Cav.
Dallas Wesner, ——
Ed. Slater, 10th Ohio Cav.
John Merriman, — Pa. Cav.
John Harris, 1st Md. Inf.
Thomas Avey, 34th Ill. Inf.
Isaac Barnhizer, 34th Inf.
Levi Holsinger, 34th Ill. Inf.
Fred Frawert, 46th Ill. Inf.
Chas. Rubsamen, 3d Md. Cav.
Charles Newcomer, Paymaster.
Wm. E. Withers, 188th Pa. Inf.
James Withers, 188th Pa. Inf.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Longman, 1st Md. Inf. | John Palmer, 140 Ill. Inf. | Wm. Finney, 142 Ill. Inf. |
| Ed. Bricknell, 65th Ill. Inf. | Philip Shouse, —— | Wm. J. Fouke, 34th Ill. Inf. |
| W. G. Cook, 73d Ind. Inf. | Henry Easton, 13th Ill. Inf. | S. V. Miller, 92d Ill. Inf. |

## MASONS.

Samuel H. Davis Lodge, No. 96, A. F. &. A. M., has a history dating back over a half century. It was organized some time before 1850, the exact date of which does not appear on the records of the society. After organization it worked under a dispensation for several years until a charter was obtained and reorganization effected October 6, 1851. The first principal officers under the charter were Isaiah Nilcoxen, W. M.; James Clark, S. W.; Wm. Little, J. W. Others of the first members after the charter had been obtained were Joseph S. Nye, Thomas Winston, Joseph Hale, W. T. Harlow, Elbridge W. Little, Nathaniel A. Ankney, Wm. A Plantz, Isaac Rice, Francis A. McNeill, Peter Knodle, Jonathan Knodle H I. Little, Benjamin K. Shryock, Ansel Streeter, S. H. Clems, John Donaldson, D. B. Turney, Abraham Pope, Edward Knock, James H. Fouke, Danie Highbarger, John Stanger, Benjamin Swingley, W. S. Pope, James M Webb. A Bible belonging to the Lodge and which was presented by the ladies of Mount Morris at the time these men, who are now nearly all dead, were members of the society, is still to be found in the lodge-room. It bears the date June 24, 1851.

James Clark, who filled the office of S. W. at the time of the charter organization in 1851, afterward enjoyed the noted destinction of being the "oldest Mason in the world." He was made a Mason at Sunbury, Ohio, in 1820, and remained in good standing in the society until the time of his death, which occurred but recently at his home at Quincy, Ill. He lived in Mount Morris for a number of years and took active part in all doings of the Lodge. He finally moved from Mount Morris to Quincy, Ill. Several years before his death, when he became widely known as the oldest Mason in the world, the Masons of Sheffield, England, sent to Quincy to secure a portrait of him.

At the time of the organization of the Masonic fraternity in Mount Morris, they occupied what is known as the "Old Masonic Hall," where many of the old pioneer and prominent citizens of Mount Morris met regularly for many years. In the view on page 51, reproduced from a photograph taken in about 1870, can be seen the venerable old building, the upper story of which was used for the hall. It is numbered 18. It is now removed and with some alterations is still standing north of J. Strock's grocery, and is used by S. A. Shriner as a harness shop. In 1876 the new Masonic building was erected in which they have since had quarters. Their room is large and well arranged, and probably the most elaborately furnished lodge-room in Mount Morris. They have a lease on the hall for ninety-nine years. The principal officers at present are: Gregor Thompson, W. M.; R. C. McCredie, S. W.; Frank Coffman, J. W.; A. W. Brayton Treasurer; and T. C. Williams, Secretary. Messrs. Brayton and Williams have been repeatedly re-elected for many years. The other members of the lodge at present are:

*ONE OF THE MANY SHADY STREETS IN MOUNT MORRIS.*
View looking north on Ogle Street; A. W. Brayton's lawn to the right.

Charles Smith
Peter Householder
Benj. F. Shryock
Samuel Knodle
Henry Sharer
N. A. Ankney
J. T. Baker
A. E. Canode
John E. McCoy
J. G. Miller
Chas. H. Canode
William Lohafer, Jr.
U. C. Nye
A. C. Irvin
J. B. Moats
Charlie Myers
George Myers
Harry Cushing
Bert Smith
D. F. Stevens
Edward Jimmerson
Geo. B. McCosh
George Zeigler
N. E. Buser
S. E. Avey
B. E. Avey
Geo. Myers, Leaf River
Frank Graves, Leaf River
Dr. Mitchell, Leaf River
Dr. Bowerman, Leaf River
Benj. Rebman, Forreston
John Boekholder, "
D. Harry Hammer, Chicago
C. W. Webster, Seward
Gottlieb Rummel, Freeport

November 17, 1876, the Samuel H. Davis Lodge, No. 96, of Mount Morris, and Forreston Lodge No. 413, were consolidated under the former name, with O. H. Swingley, W. M.; D. Rine, S. W.; and J. H. Nye, J. W. This accounts for the occurrence of names of Forreston and Leaf River Masons in the above list.

## Knights of the Globe.

Dick Yates Garrison, No. 31, K. of G., is an insurance as well as fraternal and social organization, and is a comparatively new society in Mount Morris. A garrison was first organized here in 1891 by the Supreme Captain-General W. W. Krape, with a membership of 15. There were not enough members to make them eligible to a charter and the members soon lost interest in the organization. Most of them gradually dropped out and the garrison became practically disorganized. Finally during the summer of 1900, Col. C. R. Greene of Jacksonville, general recruiting officer of the Knights of the Globe, came to town and set the garrison again upon its feet. The required membership of thirty being secured, a charter was granted them, dated August 28, 1900. The officers elected were: John C. Marshall, Supreme Judge; S. P. Mumma, President; H. C. Clark, Judge; C. H. Canode, Vice-President; A. M. Newcomer, Commander; E. O. Startzman, Lieut.-Commander. The appointive officers are: John Muller, Ensign; D. J. Beard, Provost Commander; C. H. Mishler, Quartermaster; H. G. Newcomer, Adjutant; Edward Mumma, Guard; George Weller, Sentinel. The other members of the Garrison are:

R. R. Hitt
R. D. McClure
J. G. Miller
Gera Watts
George Medlar
Dr. W. W. Hanes
I. W. Marshall
Dr. C. J. Price
Roy Crawford
R. C. McCredie
Oliver Miller
A. T. Olson
William Fairlamb
Chas. W. Weller
Charles Niman
Thomas Watts
T. C. Williams
Dr. J. F. Canode

Those who have served the garrison and who are entitled to the title of Honored Judge are: R. R. Hitt, R. D. McClure, T. C. Williams, J. G. Miller, S. P. Mumma, E. O. Startzman and C. H. Mishler.

The Garrison meets in the Odd Fellows' hall on the second Monday of each month. On the 22nd of every February a banquet is given in honor of the establishment of the organization.

## Modern Woodmen of America.

Mount Morris Camp, M. W. A., No. 4526, is one of the youngest secret societies in Mount Morris, yet it is by far the largest in point of membership. The Woodman order is pre-eminently an insurance fraternity but also is organized with provisions for sociability among its members and benefits in times of sickness or disaster.

The Mount Morris camp was organized February 9, 1897, by Deputy Head Council O. B. Olison, with a charter membership of twenty. The first officers elected were as follows: J. H. Miller, Venerable Council; Oscar Warble, Worthy Advisor; A. E. Clevidence, Banker; F. K. Spalding, Clerk; E. E. Winders, Escort; E. J. Allen, Watchman; Samuel Rowe, Sentry; Dr. Hanes, Physician. The first board of managers elected were C. E. Price, 3 years; R. C. McCredie, 2 years; and A. W. Brayton, 1 year.

The first member received into the camp was H. G. Newcomer, who was initiated into the mysteries of Woodcraft May 21, 1897. Only one death has occurred in the camp, that of Prof. E. E. Winders, who died November 1, 1897. He carried $3000 insurance. The total amount paid by him in entrance fees and dues was only $16.60.

The camp had its most prosperous time during the spring of 1899, when the membership was raised to over one hundred, a surprisingly large number for one camp in a town of the population of Mount Morris.

A photograph of the Forrester team which did the work of initiating the new members is reproduced on the opposite page. Elaborate uniforms were bought for their use.

The present membership of the camp is 104. Most of them carry insurance, varying from $500 to $3000. The total amount of insurance carried by all the members is $153,000.

The present officers are: I. W. Marshall, Venerable Council; W. H. Keedy, Worthy Advisor; F. M. Baker, Banker; H. G. Newcomer, Clerk; H. E. Longman, Escort; S. B. Alter, Watchman; John H. Miller, Sentry; W. W. Hanes, Physician. The present board of directors is John H. Miller, Geo. W. Deppen and W. H. Jackson.

The camp met for a number of years in the Masonic Hall but at present have a nicely-furnished hall over Watts' grocery. They meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. The camp is in a very prosperous condition. The present members outside of the officers already mentioned are:

E. J. Allen
S. B. Alter
S. E. Avey
Geo. C. Bain
J. W. Bechtold
A. W. Brayton
D. M. Bock
C. N. Beard
D. J. Beard
Otho Baker
Harry Baker
F. M. Baker
Elmer Baker
L. R. Bear
A. E. Clevidence
H. W. Cushing
C. H. Canode
J. B. Canode
Fred Crosby
J. F. Canode
George Deppen
James Driscoll
Wm. Domer
Edward Drexler
Jerry Easton
Fred Frederickson
Wm. Felker
I. E. Finney
Alonzo Geiger
John Green
F. S. Gloss
W. W. Hanes
Earl Householder

*M. W. A. FORRESTER TEAM.*

Fred Hllger
W. J. Healy
O. E. Huff
H. B. Haney
A. C. Irvin
S. J. Hess
W. H. Jackson
Fred Long
H. E. Longman
L. E. Lizer
Charles Leek
J. B. Lookabaugh
H. F. Longman
S. M. Lyon
F. A. Middlekauff
John H. Miller
James A. Mongan
F. W. Nazarene
A. T. Olson
B. S. Price
B. T. Ryder
Ed. Jimmerson, Jr.
B. S. Keister
C. H. Mishler
Wm. H. Keedy
H. E. Keedy
H. L. Kanode
H. J. Kable
J. C. Lehner
A. C. Lookabaugh
Chas. B. McCoy
I. W. Marshall
J. H. Miller
R. C. McCredie
J. D. Miller
E. W. Middour
Sam McNett
Wm. Mongan
Geo. H. Myers
Robert McCoy
H. G. Newcomer
J. D. Newcomer
C. E. Price
Samuel Rowe
F. C. Remmer
Wm. Stewart
George D. Steele
George S. Shryock
Chas. Spielman
Dennis Tracy
C. F. Thomas
Oscar Warble
F. K. Spalding
C. E. Smith
Geo. D. Shifler
F. S. Stonebraker
F. A. Tice
C. H. Whitman
Lewis Wallace
*J. L. Rice
*B. E. Avey
*A. M. Newcomer
*J. F. Muller

In 1898, the various Woodman camps in Ogle county formed a picnic association, and each year since have held a grand picnic at some place in the county. The first picnic was held in Mount Morris in August, 1898, and was a grand success.

## Odd Fellows.

Elysian Lodge, No. 56, I. O. O. F., is also an organization of considerable age. It was organized under a charter granted by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, dated July 25, 1849, with the following charter members: George W. Fouke, John F. Grosh, James N. Martin, Daniel Highbarger, Walter Wilson and Emanuel W. Myers. They met in various rooms about town for a time, notably in the second story of the old house now occupied by Daniel Eversole, shown on page 119.

In 1850–52 many of the members of the lodge removed to California and elsewhere, weakening the society to such an extent that, in 1853, the charter was surrendered to the Grand Lodge. November 4, 1874, the lodge was re-organized, and the same charter and books were returned to it. The charter members and gentlemen who procured this re-organization were Henry Sharer, B. G. Stephens, Elijah Lott, G. W. Fouke and W. J. Fouke.

After this second organization the lodge met for a number of years in the room over C. H. Sharer's grocery, later used as the Index office. They next rented the room over John Sprecher's store in the Masonic building, now known as Stanley hall. Later they came into possession of a hall of their own in the second story of W. A. Newcomer's residence, upon which they have a lease for ninety-nine years. This hall is spacious and is elaborately furnished. They rent it to a number of the other secret organizations of the town.

* Social member.

The Odd Fellow lodge is probably in the best financial circumstances of any order in Mount Morris. Besides practically owning their hall they have in their treasury about $1500, accumulated in years past, which they have invested in government bonds and other property.

At present the lodge is not as large numerically as it has been in the past, owing to a number of circumstances, one of which is the forming of a new lodge at Leaf River in March, 1900, which drew away several members. Also many of the members have moved away and been transferred to other lodges. The present officers and members are:

John Muller, Noble Grand
Fred Fry, Vice Grand
Fred Frederickson, Recording Secretary
Wm. Miller, Financial Secretary
A. M. Newcomer, Treasurer
Jacob Craley
J. D. Hays
H. B. Haney
L. E. Lizer
W. E. McCready
John McCready
Ernest Newcomer
H. G. Newcomer
Jonathan Shafstal
C. N. Green
George Ziegler
J. M. Smith
I. M. C. Reeder

The Odd Fellows meet on Wednesday night of each week. Like the Masons, they are organized not only as a social fraternity, but have provision for financial assistance to their sick or afflicted members, to be drawn from their beneficiary fund.

## Rebeccas.

Sandstone Rebecca Lodge, No. 538, was instituted February 14, 1899, by Deputy Grand Master Electo C. Reynolds, of Oregon, with a charter membership of twenty. This organization is the ladies' degree of Odd Fellowship, and like it, has for its object advancement of the social and fraternal spirit of its members. Gentlemen as well as ladies are admitted. The first officers elected were Julia S. Slater, Noble Grand; Laura S. Lizer, Vice Grand; Edna Newcomer, Treasurer; Maude Rowe, Financial Secretary; H. G. Newcomer, Recording Secretary.

The charter members of the Lodge who are yet in good standing are:

A. M. Newcomer
Mrs. A. M. Newcomer
Miss Edna Newcomer
Fred Frederickson
Mrs. Fannie Frederickson
Mrs. Wm. H. Miller
Miss Lizzie Lizer
Mrs. Anna Rowe
Miss Maude Rowe
L. E. Lizer
Mrs. L. E. Lizer
Edward Slater
Mrs. Julia Slater
Mrs. Harry Knodle
W. E. McCready
Mrs. Lizzie McCready
H. G. Newcomer
H. A. Jimmerson, Leaf River
Mrs. Julia Jimmerson, Leaf River
Miss Alice Nale, Leaf River

Since the organization of the Lodge, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fry, John Muller, Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Haney and Miss Nellie Smith have been initiated and taken in as new members.

The Rebeccas meet on the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month in the Odd Fellows' hall. The present officers are: Edna Newcomer, Noble Grand; Lizzie Lizer, Vice Grand; Mrs. Wm. Miller, Treasurer; Mrs. Sadie Fry, Recording Secretary; H. G. Newcomer, Financial Secretary.

*VIEW OF MOUNT MORRIS LOOKING SOUTHEAST FROM COLLEGE HALL.*

## Maccabees.

Olympia Tent, No. 253, K. A. T. M., was organized May 11, 1899, with twenty-two members. The order very much resembles the Woodman, being an insurance, fraternal and social organization. The Tent has no charter but is working under a dispensation. At present interest appears to be lagging among the members and probably not more than half of them are yet loyal. No meetings are being held, but a part of the members continue to keep up their insurance.

# CHAPTER XIV.

## MISCELLANEOUS HISTORY.

THE first settlers of Mount Morris township were not often favored with mail matter and the receipt of a letter, parcel or paper was considered quite an event. In Peter Knodle's diary, page 31, Mr. Knodle makes a special entry announcing the fact that he had "received a pamphlet," which illustrates the importance of the receipt of mail matter at that early day. The first regular mails to arrive in Mount Morris were brought in 1839 and 1840 by a stage line run between Chicago and Galena by Frink & Walker. Hon. R. R. Hitt remembers that the stage driver always stopped at his father's house (the old house north of the farm residence now occupied by Gera Watts) to water his horses.

**The Postoffice**

The mails were brought by stage from the eastward for probably nearly fifteen years, until finally the Illinois Central railroad was built through Polo in 1853 and a mail route established from that place. F. B. Brayton, who was postmaster from 1860 to 1881, acquired the stage line between Polo and Oregon in 1864, and carried both mail and passengers from that time until the coming of the Chicago & Iowa railroad in 1871, when it was of course done away with. This stage operated by Mr. Brayton made daily trips between Polo and Oregon, thus affording the Mount Morris people a daily mail. At about the beginning or closing of the school years at Rock River Seminary this stage line had to be increased by several additional vehicles, and did a prosperous business.

After the coming of the Chicago & Iowa railroad and the commencement of the passage of numerous Illinois Central trains over the line to Chicago, the people of Mount Morris had a very good mail service for many years. Since the Illinois Central trains reach Chicago by another route, the mails have been somewhat less frequent, but sufficient for all purposes, nevertheless. Mails now arrive from the west at 10: 28 A. M. and 6 P. M., and from the east at 12: 25 P. M. and 9: 45 P. M. Most of the mail comes in, however, on the 10: 28 A. M. passenger from the west.

A postoffice was first established in Mount Morris in 1841, and Rev. John Sharp appointed postmaster. Mr. Sharp was succeeded by his son-in-law, Frederick G. Petrie. After him, followed for a short time, Hiram Beard; then John Ankney for many years, who was succeeded by Benjamin G. Stephens, followed by Edward Davis, and then Frederick B. Brayton, who held that position for twenty-one years, as previously mentioned. Prior to this time the postoffice was usually kept in a store of which the postmaster was generally the owner, and consisted of nothing further

*VIEW OF MOUNT MORRIS LOOKING NORTHEAST FROM COLLEGE HALL.*

than a box with the necessary pigeon holes and which could, and usually was, moved from one place to another, when the postmastership changed, on a wheelbarrow. It is remembered that John Ankney kept it in his store which occupied an old grout addition to the house on Center street, between Wesley and McKendrie streets, now occupied by John Blecker as a residence. This old grout addition has long since been removed, but the remainder still stands. It is numbered 27 in the view on page 51 of this book. Mr. Brayton, who held the office for so long, was first appointed postmaster by Abraham Lincoln in 1861. He kept the office in his store.

Following Mr. Brayton the succession of postmasters up to the present time has been as follows: O. H. Swingley, 1882 to 1886; Henry Sharer, 1886 to 1890; Frank Tice, 1890 to 1894; John E. McCoy, 1894 to 1898; Holly C. Clark, 1898 to the present time. In 1894, Mr. McCoy, upon coming into possession of the office, purchased the elegant new office fixtures which are now in use. The case is one of the finest in the county.

Mr. H. C. Clark, the present postmaster, took possession in March, 1898, and will continue in office until March, 1902. It is seen that each postmaster holds over about one and a half years after the presidential election, due to an irregularity made years ago.

Since the Civil War there have been but two Democratic postmasters in Mount Morris,—Messrs. Henry Sharer and John E. McCoy. The re-election of President McKinley in November, 1900, assures another Republican postmaster following Mr. Clark, or Mr. Clark's re-appointment. The salary at present is $1,500, a reduction of $300 over 1899 and several years previous, due to the removal of the Brethren Publishing House. Postmaster Clark is at present ably assisted in the work by Mr. U. C. Nye.

## Graveyards.

The village of Mount Morris has two graveyards, one known as the Mount Morris Cemetery or the "Old Cemetery," situated in the southwest corner of the corporation, and the other, the Oakwood Cemetery, nearly a mile west of the corporation limit.

The Old Cemetery grounds contain about 5 acres, and like most of the remainder of the land now covered by the village, was at one time property of Rock River Seminary. The Seminary authorities set it aside and donated the ground to the community for a public graveyard, and for about sixty years past the site has served as the "silent habitation of the dead."

This cemetery was consecrated on the 2d of February, 1842, when the first burial took place,—that of a little child, the daughter of Captain Nathaniel Swingley. The words of consecration were pronounced by Rev. Thomas S. Hitt, as follows: "Here is our Machpelah, the entrance gate through which we pass the subterraneous road to heaven. Here the rich and the poor meet on a level. Today Mary Eliza, sweet morning flower, retires from all the ills of life, and takes possession first. Followed by the aged and the young, soon shall we see the willow and the

epitaph tacitly saying: 'See where she sleeps.' Here in peace shall rest the teacher and the student, the minister and his hearers, relatives and their friends, whose graves shall be approached in after times by bereaved, weeping friends, saying in the language of Scripture, (Where have they laid him?) Then from the polished marble erected where we now stand shall come the response: 'Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.' 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.'"

This cemetery is situated on rather low ground, and for many years was not in a good condition. It is said that often men were stationed at a newly-made grave, to bail out the water, which flowed in from the saturated soil, so that when the funeral procession arrived at the grave, the interment would not seem so much like a burial at sea. This condition was remedied some ten years ago when the ground was thoroughly tiled and an excellent drainage system thereby effected.

The "Old Cemetery" is property of no individuals, stock company or corporation, but is what might be called property of the community. As before stated, it was at an early day property of the Seminary and set aside by the authorities of that institution for the use of the general public. It being public property in that sense there was, of course, no one in particular authority to attend to it, and as a consequence, when people died and were buried there, no record of any kind was kept of it other than what can now be obtained from inscriptions on the tomb stones. A great many are to be found marking graves of Mount Morris citizens who died during the fifties, but stones bearing dates earlier than 1850 are not very plentiful, those remaining being small and discolored by age.

The lack of a record of the burials in this cemetery makes it difficult to determine even an approximate estimate of the number of bodies now lying buried within the limits of the grounds, owing to the fact that many have been removed to Oakwood cemetery, and many graves are unmarked. It is thought, however, that a rough estimate would place the number of bodies buried in the cemetery, at the present time, at between four and five hundred. Notable among those who found their last resting place there are Rev. Thomas S. Hitt, who is mentioned as having pronounced the words of consecration of the cemetery; his wife, Emily Hitt; Hon. John Wallace, a noted citizen of this community; James B. McCoy, who built "Old Sandstone"; Andrew Newcomer, and others.

Whenever improvements of any kind were found necessary about the grounds the funds had always to be raised by subscription. With no officers of any kind work of this sort was often sorely neglected. George Shank was for many years the moving spirit in all movements for the improvement of the grounds. Finally, a few years ago, however, a number of people who had buried relatives there, came together and formed an association, elected officers and prepared to conduct the matter in the proper manner. A sum of money was gathered together, with which, besides other improvements, Mr. N. E. Buser was hired to proper-

ly survey and plat the cemetery. Since that time the letting of lots has been done systematically.

The cemetery is at present in very good condition. Probably about half of the persons who die in this vicinity in late years are interred there. The present trustees are W. A. Newcomer, president; S. C. Kinsey, secretary: A. E. Canode, S. R. Blair and O. S. Watts.

## Oakwood Cemetery.

Before the "Old Cemetery" was tiled many Mount Morris people were dissatisfied with it as a burying ground, and finally in the year 1875 a movement was set on foot for the establishment of a second cemetery. In December of that year John W. Hitt, David Newcomer, Samuel Lookabaugh, Oliver H. Swingley and John Sprecher applied to the Secretary of State for a license to form a corporation making the following statement of their purposes:

1. The name of such corporation is "The Mount Morris Cemetery Association."

2. The object for which it is formed is to purchase a suitable lot or tract of land in the township of Mount Morris, in the County of Ogle, and State of Illinois, and to use the same as a burial ground for the dead.

3. The capital stock shall be two thousand dollars ($2.000), with the privilege of increasing the same to ten thousand dollars ($10,000) or less.

4. The amount of each share shall be ten dollars ($10).

5. The number of shares two hundred (200) with the privilege of increasing to ten hundred (1.000) or less.

6. The location of the principal office is in Mount Morris, in the County of Ogle, and State of Illinois.

7. The duration of the corporation shall be ninety-nine (99) years.

Books of subscription were opened after the license had been secured and the stock all readily taken by thirty-nine of the most prominent people of Mount Morris. John W. Hitt took forty-eight shares; D. J. Pinckney, ten shares; and the majority of the remainder, five shares each. The directors elected were O. H. Swingley and John W. Hitt, one year; David Newcomer and John Sharer, two years; Samuel Lookabaugh and Francis W. Stonebraker, three years. The present site of Oakwood Cemetery was finally selected, it being a tract of timber land along the south side of the road, one mile west of Mount Morris, containing fifteen acres, for which was paid the sum of $150 per acre.

This new cemetery was surveyed into regular blocks and lots and put into fine shape. It has since been given the best of care by the association and is a credit to the community. The present officers of the Association are John E. McCoy, president; T. C. Williams, secretary; C. C. Miles, and S. P. Mumma.

The records of the Association show that there are now buried in the cemetery 239 bodies. The register printed here will no doubt be of interest. A number were removed from the Old Cemetery.

| NAME | DATE OF DEATH | AGE |
|---|---|---|
| Alden, Charles Emery, Aug. 9, | 1858 | 1 |
| Alden, Lucy Ann, April 19, | 1860 | 36 |
| Anderson, Frances, July 12, | 1881 | Infant |
| Atchison, Mrs. Elizabeth, April 15, | 1880 | 73 |
| Allen, Aaron Quimby, Jan. 24, | 1883 | 68 |
| Brayton, Daniel, June 30, | 1850 | 58 |
| Brayton, Ann, March 30, | 1864 | 77 |
| Brayton, Elizabeth, Aug. 25, | 1842 | 18 |
| Brayton, Ernest Wing, June 27, | 1855 | 10 |
| Brayton, Mrs. Charlotte L., May 9, | 1885 | 64 |
| Brayton, Frederick B., Dec. 10, | 1897 | 79 |
| Black, Mary E., April 4, | 1879 | 57 |
| Black, David B., Dec. 5, | 1857 | 6 |
| Blake, Lillian Lolo, Sept. 2, | 1880 | Infant |
| Blake, Eugenia Elizabeth, Jan. 26, | 1896 | 37 |
| Bain, Willis Edward, Jan. 24, | 1879 | 1 |
| Baker, Essie May, Oct. 23, | 1886 | 5 |
| Baker, Francis W., Nov. 10, | 1897 | 10 |
| Butt, Mrs. Ida (Pinckney), July 26, | 1883 | 33 |
| Conaway, Benjamin, July 20, | 1870 | Infant |
| Conaway, Mrs. Mary F., Feb. 19, | 1872 | 33 |
| Cheney, Osmyn E., Nov. 1, | 1845 | Infant |
| Cheney, Ella A., Feb. 27, | 1872 | 14 |
| Cheney, Josie H., Oct. 8, | 1872 | 18 |
| Cheney, Cloe A., March 22, | 1879 | 67 |
| Cheney, Winnie Ione, Feb. 24, | 1882 | 3 |
| Cheney, Ida Belle, March 17, | 1883 | 25 |
| Cheney, Stephen Hardin, Jan. 4, | 1894 | 81 |
| Craddock, Ann Virginia, Oct. 7, | 1849 | 2 |
| Craddock, John, July 28, | 1850 | 53 |
| Craddock, Victor W., Oct. 13, | 1857 | 5 |
| Craddock, Amelia, July 31, | 1865 | 56 |
| Craddock, John, July 12, | 1890 | 50 |
| Clark, unnamed, Dec. 31, | 1878 | Infant |
| Cosgrove, Jean, August 21, | 1872 | Infant |
| Crowell, Alice J., Oct. 13, | 1892 | 34 |
| Detrich, Elizabeth, Nov. 16, | 1864 | 68 |
| Deter, Charlotte, Oct. 12, | 1869 | 51 |
| Domer, Alva Bruce, June 17, | 1883 | Infant |
| Donaldson, John, Oct. 30, | 1884 | 63 |
| Felker, Catherine, Feb. 29, | 1880 | 66 |
| Felker, Hannah J., March 13, | 1858 | 1 |
| Felker, Abraham, Sept. 4, | 1869 | 67 |
| French, Lizzie May, Sept. 11, | 1878 | 14 |
| Farwell, Henry J., April 2, | 1890 | 69 |
| Few, Guy L., Jan. 20, | 1894 | Infant |
| Getzendaner, Mary, March 22, | 1881 | Infant |
| Getzendaner, Edward, Dec. 6, | 1886 | Infant |
| Gloss, Elsie M., Aug. 12, | 1880 | Infant |
| Glasgow, Elizabeth Jane, Nov. 7, | 1881 | 42 |
| Granger, John (colored), Feb. 2, | 1882 | 62 |
| Greenfield, Maria, Feb. 13, | 1882 | 83 |
| Gibbs, William Johnson, Dec. 3, | 1882 | 74 |
| Gibbs, Sarah, Feb. 1, | 1884 | 72 |
| Gilbert, Arthur N., June 9, | 1885 | Infant |
| Gilbert, William F., March 12, | 1887 | Infant |

| NAME | DATE OF DEATH | AGE |
|---|---|---|
| Hitt, Samuel M., Nov. 16, | 1859 | 60 |
| Hitt, George W., Aug. 2, | 1856 | 22 |
| Hitt, Samuel M., March 2, | 1845 | 2 |
| Hitt, Mary Ella, Sept. 18, | 1854 | 6 |
| Hitt, Edith, March 22, | 1872 | 1 |
| Hitt, Electa V. M., Nov. 10, | 1855 | 29 |
| Hitt, Frederick G., Aug. 16, | 1870 | 1 |
| Hitt, Joseph E., July 28, | 1878 | 42 |
| Hitt, Ella Mary, March 5, | 1884 | 1 |
| Hitt, Mrs. Sibyl Sammis, May 28, | 1885 | 45 |
| Hitt, Mrs. Barbara Hershey, Feb. 2, | 1890 | 84 |
| Hitt, Robert Smith, April 18, | 1894 | 65 |
| Hitt, Edith Augusta, April 4, | 1897 | 24 |
| Hitt, Andrew M., May 2, | 1899 | 72 |
| Hershey, Catherine, Nov. 10, | 1871 | 87 |
| Hilger, Appolonia, Dec. 9, | 1892 | 70 |
| Hiestand, Olive May, Aug. 21, | 1894 | 13 |
| Hendrickson, Katheryn, Feb. 20, | 1897 | Inf't |
| Judson, Alonson, Nov., | 1849 | Infant |
| Keedy, Jacob, March 15, | 1881 | 84 |
| Keedy, Mrs. Susan, May 27, | 1881 | 79 |
| Keedy, Elizabeth, April 30, | 1892 | 58 |
| Keedy, Edward, March 1, | 1897 | 68 |
| Keedy, Daniel Blecker, March 10, | 1897 | 37 |
| Knodle, Barbara, July 2, | 1881 | 85 |
| Knodle, Jonathan, Sept. 25, | 1882 | 56 |
| Knodle, Mary Catherine, Sept. 12, | 1847 | 9 |
| Knodle, Margaret, March 26, | 1852 | Infant |
| Knodle, Susanah, April 27, | 1853 | Infant |
| Knodle, David, May 23, | 1853 | Infant |
| Knodle, Samuel Myron, Jan. 7, | 1854 | 3 |
| Knodle, Jonathan, July 15, | 1854 | 59 |
| Knodle, Mary, May 1, | 1872 | 46 |
| Knodle, Benjamin, July 5, | 1863 | Infant |
| Knodle, Mary V., Jan. 17, | 1883 | 55 |
| Knodle, Willard Pond, June 5, | 1889 | 10 |
| Knodle, Peter, Aug. 3, | 1892 | 70 |
| Keplinger, David A., Dec. 18, | 1876 | 1 |
| Keplinger, William F., Nov. 22, | 1878 | Infant |
| Keplinger, Anna Irene, Oct. 29, | 1879 | Infant |
| Keplinger, Mabel Iola, May 30, | 1881 | 1 |
| Keplinger Jennie F., March 29, | 1899 | 25 |
| Kennedy, Alma Hattie, May 7, | 1874 | 2 |
| Knight, Hezekiah, Dec. 6, | 1895 | 89 |
| King, Katherine J., Jan. 6, | 1899 | 13 |
| Lynn, Ida, April 21, | 1878 | 1 |
| Lynn, Elroy, June 23, | 1881 | Infant |
| Lohafer, Charlie George, Feb. 8, | 1881 | 3 |
| Lohafer, Frederick D., Feb. 28, | 1872 | 4 |
| Lohafer, F. W., Sept. 29, | 1873 | Infant |
| Long, Mary J., July 15, | 1881 | 40 |
| Long, Floy Josephine, Dec. 16, | 1886 | 1 |
| Long, Jacob, Jan. 29, | 1888 | 63 |
| Long, Adolphus R., May 6, | 1898 | 59 |
| Lookabaugh, Samuel, Sept. 4, | 1899 | 72 |
| Marshall, Robert R., Jan. 18, | 1874 | 1 |

Marshall, Lena May, March 31, 1875 ..... 5
Miller, John A., Nov. 1, 1880 ..... 67
Miller, Francis Joseph, Oct. 21, 1882 ..... 22
Miller, Michael Lester, Feb. 1, 1883 ..... Infant
Miller, Cyrus E., Aug. 6, 1861 ..... 9
Miller, Mary E., Oct. 13, 1862 ..... 1
Miller, Maria Lousia, Sept. 25, 1886 ..... 54
Miller, Lloyd Willis, July 24, 1887 ..... Infant
Miller, Orville, July 20, 1892 ..... Infant
Mercer, William A., March 27, 1879 ..... Infant
Motter, Ann E., May 21, 1892 ..... 73
Motter, Jacob B., Feb. 18, 1872 ..... 86
Motter, Hiram, Jan. 8, 1893 ..... 76
Meck, Robert G., Oct. 27, 1856 ..... 38
McCosh, John, Oct. 23, 1882 ..... 32
McCosh, Dr. John, March 19, 1883 ..... 59
McNeill, Frederick A., Sept. 15, 1868 ..... 1
McNeill, Frank Asbury, Feb. 3, 1872 ..... 62
McNeill, Mary E., Feb. 7, 1861 ..... 2
McNett, ——, ..... .....
Myers, ——, ..... .....
Mumma, Benj. F., July 5, 1888 ..... 38
Mumma, Daniel Shafer, Sept. 10, 1888 ..... 70
Mumma, Ann Mary, Oct. 13, 1894 ..... 67
Mumma, Jacob H., Oct. 4, 1897 ..... 72
Merriman, Chas., Nov. 21, 1892 ..... —
Miles, Mary, Feb. 23, 1895 ..... 85
McCredie, Quinter, Feb. 18, 1897 ..... Infant
McCoy, Howard, Jan. 10, 1892 ..... 11

Newcomer, Henry H., April 24, 1880 ..... 44
Newcomer, Sarah A., Jan. 17, 1882 ..... 80
Newcomer, Samuel, June, 1849 ..... 49
Newcomer, Rosalie D., Nov. 11, 1872 ..... 44
Newcomer, Alice Rice, Dec. 14, 1894 ..... 22

Ohr, George B., Sept. 14, 1859 ..... Infant
Ohr, Charles H., June 9, 1860 ..... 4
Ohr, Francis W., Oct. 6, 1865 ..... 4

Pinckney, Mary Belle, Aug. 30, 1858 ..... 1
Pinckney, Thyetta B., Feb. 5, 1874 ..... Infant
Pinckney, Daniel Jarvis, June 17, 1883 ..... 65
Petrie, Francis Catherine, Oct. 24, 1847 ..... 1
Petrie, William A., Aug. 23, 1850 ..... Infant
Petrie, Philo Judson, Feb. 24, 1852 ..... Infant
Petrie, Lydia, Oct. 24, 1852 ..... —
Petrie, Elizabeth, June 4, 1853 ..... 28
Petrie, Hale, June 7, 1853 ..... Infant
Petrie, Fredrick A., July 11, 1887 ..... 68
Page, John, Oct. 9, 1863 ..... 28
Potter, Calvin A., June 23, 1888 ..... 50
Potter, Mrs. Rebecca, 1897 ..... 84
Pond, Willard L., Nov. 28, 1897 ..... 81
Piper, Earl J., Feb. 13, 1900 ..... 1

Rice, Rowland, Sept. 26, 1858 ..... Infant
Rice, Anna, Jan. 13, 1878 ..... 17
Rice, Hannah, Aug. 26, 1875 ..... Infant
Rice, Emma, Aug. 29, 1875 ..... Infant
Rice, Mary C., Oct. 11, 1879 ..... 14
Rice (an infant son), July 1, 1877 .....
Radjesky, Thos., ..... .....

Smith, Susan ..... .....
Smith, Olive Gertrude, Aug. 5, 1881 ..... Infant
Smith, Rosia E., Sept. 12, 1870 ..... 6
Swingley, Cyrus A., Aug. 2, 1872 ..... Infant
Sharp, Sarah, Feb. 23, 1846 ..... 45
Sharp, Catherine, Dec. 24, 1849 ..... —
Sharer, Morton H., Oct. 10, 1846 ..... Infant
Sharer, Cornelia E., Sept. 22, 1853 ..... 30
Sharer, Cornelia, Oct. 18, 1853 ..... Infant
Sharer, John, Dec. 28, 1860 ..... 77
Sharer, Sarah A., June 6, 1892 ..... 58
Sharer, Jacob, June 7, 1865 ..... 58
Sharer, Amelia, Dec. 17, 1895 ..... 88
Stewart, Margaret E., Sept. 6, 1867 ..... Infant
Stewart, Edward A., Aug. 22, 1872 ..... Infant
Stewart, Mrs. Laura Ellen, Dec. 13, 1880 ..... 46
Stonebraker, John V., July 30, 1868 ..... 9
Stonebraker, Fred, Sept. 26, 1868 ..... Infant
Stonebraker, Ella, Sept. 13, 1875 ..... Infant
Stonebraker, Daniel W., July 15, 1883 ..... 22
Stonebraker, Lewellyn R., May 5, 1887 ..... 11
Shaw, Hiram T., April 21, 1869 ..... 20
Stephens, Dr. Benj. G., Jan. 10, 1879 ..... 59
Stanger, John F., Sept. 12, 1880 ..... 81
Stroh, Cecilia A., Oct., 1840 ..... 1
Stroh, Alfred E., Oct. 29, 1870 ..... 27
Stroh, Elizabeth, Nov. 16, 1894 ..... 86
Stroh, Rev. Nicholas J., Jan. 1, 1897 ..... 98
Sprecher, Orville H., Nov. 14, 1889 ..... 7

Thomas, William T., April 28, 1879 ..... 24
Thomas, Garoline C., Jan. 30, 1880 ..... 60
Thomas, Blanche E., June 9, 1890 ..... 11
Thomas, Ruth, Sept. 24, 1896 ..... Infant
Thomas, Emma Bell, Nov. 14, 1896 ..... 15
Thomas, Joshua, March 18, 1884 ..... 73
Thomas, Eliza Jane, Feb. 5, 1897 ..... 41
Thomas, Abram, Aug. 29, 1879 ..... 79
Trapp, Mrs. Sarah J., Sept. 5, 1867 ..... 38
Tice, ——, .....
Tice, Gertrude, June 12, 1887 ..... 16
Tracy, Willis B., Jan. 29, 1888 ..... 5

Withers, Thomas W., Feb. 12, 1880 ..... 78
Withers, Elsie May, March 24, 1881 ..... 1
Withers, Hanora V. E., Oct. 7, 1856 ..... 19
Withers, Blanche, Aug. 11, 1882 ..... Infant
Withers, Benjamin F., Dec. 25, 1882 ..... 29
Withers, ——, ..... Infant
Withers, John W., ..... .....
Withers, Elizabeth, Jan. 14, 1885 ..... 73
Withers, Henry, Nov. 4, 1887 ..... 72
Withers, B. C., March 20, 1888 ..... 15
Withers, Frank, Nov. 4, 1887 ..... —
Withers, Emma E., April 18, 1898 ..... 55
Wagoner, Edger E., Nov., 1864 ..... 88
Williams, Willis W., April 19, 1875 ..... 1

Williams, ——.....
Williams, Elias, Oct. 6, 1890.....67
Wolf, ——,.....
Wolf, Charlotte, March 16, 1891.....38
Wolf, William, Oct. 14, 1892.....—
Wolf, Grant,.....
Wendle, —— ... .. . ..... .....
Windle, Charles Elmer, Aug. 24, 1885....19
Wingert, David R., April 18, 1880.....64
Woltz, Jacob Elmer, Jan. 14, 1888.....1
Woltz, James Walling, May 26, 1889 .. ..72
Woltz, L. Albert, Jan. 19, 1892 ... .. Infant
Woltz, Lousia A., April 10, 1898 ... .. ..76

## Athletics.

In the way of athletics the principal game which has fascinated the gymnastic propensity of youth in Mount Morris in the past has been the great national game of base ball. For many years the great enthusiasm

*MOUNT MORRIS BASE BALL TEAM OF 1895.*

for this sport ran high and few weeks of summer passed without Saturday afternoon or mid-week contests on the diamond, with nines from neighboring towns or between home teams. Probably the most interesting series of games ever played in Mount Morris was during the summer of 1895 when a tri-county league was formed, composed of Mount Morris, Oregon, Dixon, Lanark and Polo teams, and a series of games played for the championship. Mount Morris easily out-classed Polo, Oregon and Lanark and tied Dixon for the championship, but lost in the deciding game in a close score.

Among professional base ball players produced by Mount Morris are J. D. Lookabaugh and Wm. Householder. The former is a pitcher and

has played for years with league teams. Some years ago he stopped playing ball and is now practicing magnetic healing in Mount Morris. Mr. Householder commenced his professional career with Freeport, staying with them several seasons. Last season he was with the Souix Falls, South Dakota, team and did very creditable playing. Prospects for his rapid advance in favor in base ball circles are promising.

For several years past the game of base ball appears to have somewhat fallen from favor with Ogle county athletes. Few games of any importance have been played for several years. Foot ball appears to be more popular and each year is demanding more attention.

## CHAPTER XV.

### MOUNT MORRIS OF TODAY.

Mount Morris of today! What a contrast to seventy years ago, when the spot, where now stand beautiful residences, business houses, churches and institutions of learning, was then a trackless prairie, roamed over by the native American—the Indian. Then, where now is heard the hum of voices in song, the conversation, laughter and merry-making of jolly school children and shouts of lively students, the ring of anvils, and other evidences of energetic life,—then were heard only the howl of the prairie wolf, the hiss of poisonous reptiles, and the sighing of the wind as it swept through the forest trees or swayed the long prairie grass. Mount Morris of today is a flourishing little city of 1200 inhabitants, situated in the midst of one of the richest and most fertile agricultural districts in the state of Illinois. The country which surrounds Mount Morris is almost entirely taken up by well-improved farms. The original wooded lands have been mostly cleared of trees and the low lands and swampy places redeemed by thorough tiling. Farmers, as a general rule, cultivate over one hundred acres, some as high as two hundred or more. The principal products are corn and oats, and some cattle and hogs in the way of live stock. The land is mostly in a condition to make the raising of grain the more profitable, however, and the principal source of income is, therefore, from the products. Some of the levelest, most productive and best improved farms in close proximity to Mount Morris are valued at over ninety dollars per acre and some even higher.

Mount Morris township, including the village, is an exceptionally wealthy community. The schedule of all personal property in the township on the first day of April, 1900, and all the lands and town lots as reported by the assessor, Mr. Allen, shows that the total value of all property whatsoever in the township was $2,432,975. Considering that the total population is 2,000, this would make an average wealth of $1200 for each man, woman and child in the township. The following tabular statement showing the totals of personal and real property by the last assessment will show the wealth of Mount Morris township.

The village of Mount Morris is situated in section 26 and 27 near the southern part of the township, a little to the east of a line running through the center. The area enclosed within the corporate limits of the village is about 640 acres. There are laid off and platted at the present time about fifty blocks. Within the corporate limits of the village are now 270 habitable residences and fifty public buildings, including the stores, churches, college buildings, public school building, livery stables,

# A TABULAR STATEMENT

## Showing the Totals of Personal and Real Property of Mount Morris Township, for the Year 1900.

*Compiled from the Books of the Township Assessor.*

| PERSONAL PROPERTY. | No. | Value |
|---|---|---|
| Horses of all ages, | 1273 | $ 72,615 |
| Cattle of all ages, | 3374 | 67,470 |
| Sheep of all ages, | 201 | 1,085 |
| Hogs of all ages, | 2198 | 17,522 |
| Steam Engines, including Boilers, | 12 | 3,800 |
| Fire or Burglar Proof Safes, | 17 | 1,285 |
| Billiard, Pigeon-hole, Bagatelle, or other similar tables, | 1 | 10 |
| Carriages and Wagons of whatsoever kind, | 692 | 18,655 |
| Watches and Clocks, | 547 | 4,413 |
| Sewing and Knitting Machines, | 341 | 3,810 |
| Piano Fortes, | 64 | 7,405 |
| Melodeons and Organs, | 130 | 3,345 |
| Annuities and Royalties, | 3 | 2,410 |
| Merchandise on hand, | ..... | 47,750 |
| Material and Manufactured Articles on hand, | ..... | 200 |
| Manufacturers' Tools, Implements and Machinery, | ..... | 5,885 |
| Agricultural Tools, Implements and Machinery, | ..... | 12,370 |
| Gold and Silver Plate and Plated Ware, | ..... | 645 |
| Diamonds and Jewelry, | ..... | 1,000 |
| Moneys of Bank, Banker, Broker or Stock Jobber, | ..... | 2,700 |
| Moneys of other than Bank, Banker, Broker or Jobber, | ..... | 700 |
| Credits of other than Bank, Banker, Broker or Jobber, | ..... | 315,785 |
| Bonds and Stocks, | ..... | 15,000 |
| Property of Companies and Corporations, not enumerated, | ..... | 1,500 |
| Household or Office Furniture or Property, | ..... | 49,445 |
| Investments in Real Estate and Improvements thereon, | ..... | 150 |
| Grain on hand, | ..... | 43,120 |
| All other Personal Property required to be listed, | ..... | 185 |
| Total Value of Personal Property, | ..... | 700,260 |
| LANDS. | | |
| Improved and Unimproved Lands, | ..... | 1,454,340 |
| Town Lots, improved and unimproved, | ..... | 278,375 |
| Total Value of all Property as Assessed, | ..... | 2,432,975 |

blacksmith shops, elevators, lumber offices, creamery, etc. The streets in the village measure approximately nine miles in length with probably about twelve miles of sidewalk, much of which is tar-concrete; in fact an ordinance passed by the village board of trustees prohibits the building of any more board walks and they are gradually disappearing.

Mount Morris has all the modern improvements of an up-to-date little city, — fire protection, water works, telephone exchange and electric lights. The Mount Morris water works system is owned and operated by the village. An account of the official proceedings leading up to the building of the system is to be found on pages 66 and 67. It was in 1895 when the citizens of Mount Morris determined to secure themselves against fire, and before the coming of cold weather the system was completed. The water tower is an elegant steel structure, 115 feet high from the foundation to the peak of the roof. The roof is also surmounted by a 35-foot flag-pole, from which Old Glory floats on special occasions. The tank has a capacity of 21,000 barrels and is kept full of good, pure water at all times for emergencies in case of fire, and to supply the many patrons of the system. At present there are 58 water renters, most of which are for private residences and lawns. An artesian well 500 feet in depth furnishes an exhaustless supply of water, which is lifted from the well and forced up into the tank by a powerful air pump, operated by a 29-horse gasoline engine. The power house or pumping station is situated just at the foot of the magnificent tower, and is in charge of Samuel Rowe. At the present time the water mains are extended over the principal streets of the village a total

*THE NORTH BUSINESS BLOCK.*

distance of only a few hundred feet less than two miles. A hose cart with 700 feet of hose is kept in the power house, ready to be pulled out on a minute's notice. Enough hose is kept on hand so that the houses in the most out-lying parts of the village can be reached by a stream of water in case of fire, though hydrants are in some places several blocks distant from the farthest houses. A fire company composed of a number of the younger men of the town, is formed and know what to do in case of an alarm. A large fire bell is hung beneath the tower, with which a very speedy alarm can be turned in. C. H. Whitman is fire marshal.

The local telephone exchange is one of the improvements of the year 1900. The Ogle County Telephone Company, of Rochelle, was granted

*VIEW OF MOUNT MORRIS LOOKING NORTHWEST FROM WATER TOWER.*

a franchise to string their wires through the streets and alleys of the village in the May meeting of the village board of trustees. During the month of September the poles were set, the wires strung and the 'phones placed in the residences and business houses of the patrons of the system. At first there were thirty-five phones put in, but since others have been occasionally added and at present about 40 of the most enterprising people of the town save time and bother by this convenience. The principal streets of the town have assumed quite a metropolitan aspect by the addition of the rows of poles heavily laden with telephone wires. The exchange office is located in the north Seibert block

over the Citizens' Bank. The day operator is Miss Maude Rowe and the night operator, Mr. David Craley.

The electric lighting system is the latest of the improvements of the year 1900. A franchise was granted in October by the village board of trustees to Edward Thomas to do the necessary wiring in the streets and alleys. A new building was erected for the accommodation of the plant in the north part of the village, near the railroad. At the time of the publication of this book the system is nearing completion, and is expected soon to be in active operation. Present indications are that it will be liberally supported both by the village and private individuals.

Mount Morris is pre-eminently a residence and college town. As a residence town it has many advantages over the majority of small cities and towns. In the first place it is one of the most beautiful places to be found in many a day's journey, with its beautiful and imposing college campus and buildings, its neat lawns and the long rows of shade trees lining nearly all of the streets, so that in summer time it looks like a cool and beautiful forest. A view of the street along the west side of A. W. Brayton's elegant lawn, one of the finest of the shady streets, is shown on page 205. It is seen that the branches of the trees on either side of the street almost meet in the center, forming a most beautiful arch of green. The many shade trees in Mount Morris are not native here, the spot having originally been open prairie, but the work is all result of judicious forethought on the part of the early settlers, who brought the young maples from the Mississippi river. One of the largest of the many stalwart maples is the one half way between J. Strock's grocery and C. U. Niman's livery stable, standing with a protecting wing over the old house at one time occupied by John Ankney. Mr. Ankney himself planted the tree nearly sixty years ago. It is supposed to be the oldest tree in town. The spread of its roots before disappearing under ground is marvelous.

Mount Morris is desirable as a residence town because it is one of the most healthful places to be found. It stands on an eminence among the highest in Illinois, and has excellent drainage: no waste or swampy land anywhere in the vicinity. Ague and kindred diseases are unknown. Water is easily reached at a depth of twenty-five feet to sixty feet, and is of the purest and sweetest quality, which one can never forget who has once become acquainted with it.

The religious advantages of Mount Morris are probably unexcelled in northern Illinois. The very atmosphere of the place is religious, and this in connection with the advantages enjoyed by the different denominations represented, renders the town particularly attractive to those religiously inclined. No better location can be found for the retired business man or farmer who prefers to spend his declining years with his family, where the best of intellectual and spiritual influence may be enjoyed. The intellectual inspiration coming from the college, blended with the strong moral and religious sentiment prevading the town and community, give strength and refinement to the moulding influences of society. Young men and young women reared under such healthy

influences will be well equipped for the conflicts of a busy life. The saloon has never been tolerated in the town, which accounts largely for the high standard of morality among both the young and old. The Christian denominations represented are the Methodist, Lutheran, Christian and Dunkard, a complete history of each of which is given in a separate chapter on religious organizations. All of these churches are well represented and members of any of them who are looking for a location will do well to investigate Mount Morris. This is especially true of the Brethren. Many of the most substantial citizens are members of this church and are exerting a wide influence for good in the community. They are bitterly opposed to the liquor traffic in all its forms, and as well

*SIX MOUNT MORRIS BOYS WHO BELONG TO THE STATE MILITIA.*

as the members of the other churches, may be counted upon as a solid influence against the saloon business. In no town in northern Illinois can so many Brethren families be found, and at no other place in the United States can they find such superior church, Sunday school and educational privileges. This they are not slow to see, as may be attested by the families coming here each year with a view of making it their home. Mount Morris certainly can be recommended as a very desirable place for the Brethren, desiring the best of church privileges, to locate. Especially is it desirable for those who wish to retire from the active pursuits of life and spend their last days quietly in the midst of their brethren.

The educational advantages afforded the citizens of Mount Morris is another feature which makes the place an exceptionally fine residence town. True education consists in the development of all the powers of man,—physical, mental and moral. Mount Morris claims to possess facilities for this purpose in a very high degree. It has already been stated that the atmosphere of the place seems to be religious, but it may be said with emphasis that it is more intensely educational. Education is the life of the town. It is intensified in the very spirit of the people. It can be noticed on every important movement among our citizens. The very foundation of the town was laid in that spirit, and by it the people have been swayed and influenced for nearly two generations. As everybody knows, the foundation of Mount Morris College was laid way back sixty years ago when the wild animals still roamed over the prairie and no vestage of Mount Morris of today was to be found. A class of people have grown up around the institution, who seem to thrive on the intensely religious and educational influences that have continually prevaded the place.

The public school is among the best in the country. The building is large, commodious and substantial. The course of instruction is thorough and affords a good preparatory education on which to build the more advanced culture of the mind. Concerning the history and more about the present condition of the public school see the separate chapter upon that subject.

Concerning Mount Morris College, the pride of the town and community, we cannot speak too highly. It is centrally located and affords the best of educational advantages for the young men and women desiring to fit themselves for the active and responsible duties of a useful life. Here a polished education can be obtained under the most favorable moral and religious influences. Education alone may tend to skepticism, but when secured in connection with such moulding influences as pervade this institution it becomes a power for good in all the responsible pursuits of life. The managers of the College are deeply imbued with the spirit of morality and religion, as well as the spirit of education, believing that all true education should be given in connection with proper religious culture, and for this reason the school has a reputation for a high order of training, in all that goes to make up true manhood and womanhood, that should be a credit to every state. While the College is exclusively under the control of the Brethren, it is opened to pupils from all denominations, and not a few of them are sending their children here on account of the moral restriction thrown around them while in pursuit of knowledge.

A home college is a great thing for the people of the place where the college is located. Viewed from a financial angle Mount Morris College is very valuable to Mount Morris and vicinity. It saves thousands of dollars expense and at the same time brings in thousands of dollars income. It saves the expense of sending away to college the young people of our community. Parents have an opportunity to give their children

*AUNT KITTY RICE,*

Who will be 104 years of age. August 24, 1901.

a college education with no outlay of money other than the tuition. This is a small sum compared with the expense incurred by those who come long distances by rail, and when here are obliged to pay, besides tuition, board, room and fuel. All this expense is saved to the people of Mount Morris in the education of their children, and in its stead they receive as an income thousands of dollars brought here by those who come here from a distance. This is not all. Our home college is also a college home. To be convinced that this is true, one need only visit the several departments of the college and note the manner in which everything is directed. Therefore aside from the financial phase, the people of Mount Morris receive the culture resulting from this well-ordered college life blended with the helpful atmosphere of a safe and cheerful home life.

Details concerning Mount Morris College, its history and condition at the present time and also a history of the old Rock River Seminary are to be found in separate chapters elsewhere in the volume.

Many other desirable points in favor of Mount Morris as a residence town might be mentioned. We repeat again that the people are of the very best class. They are whole-souled, free-hearted, intelligent, sociable, and a pleasant people to live among. Eastern states are represented in the make-up of the population, the larger number being from Maryland and Pennsylvania. Of late years Ohio and Indiana are also beginning to be represented. Mount Morris is a growing town, and becomes more desirable every year. Property and lots are not advanced to fancy prices, however, as in some growing towns. Good building lots within a few blocks of the college can be obtained at moderate prices. Building material is cheap, stone quarries are convenient and all facilities for building are of the best. In fact, to any out-of-town reader of this book who is looking for a place of residence,—to one who wishes to retire from business or from the farm to educate children, to enjoy the privileges of churches, Sunday schools, to live in a place of quiet comfort and ease, we say come and see Mount Morris. You will find a spot combining many of the advantages and few of the evils that go to make up a desirable place of residence.

## Business Enterprises.

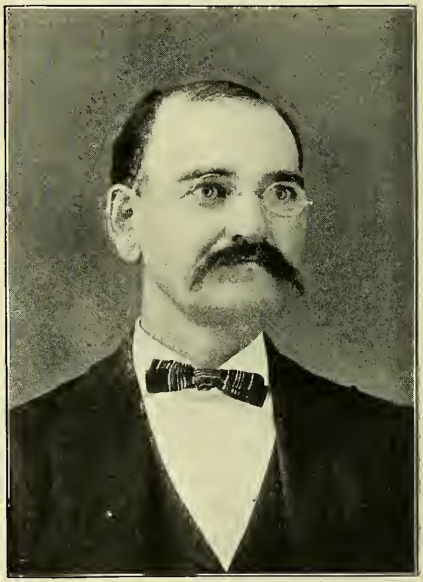
Mount Morris College is, of course, the leading business enterprise in Mount Morris. Dozens of families are supported directly or indirectly by its presence. In fact, it is the very backbone of the village. The attendance of sev ral hundred out-of-town students raises the apparent population during nine months of the year, and gives more hustle and bustle to things in general. Concerning this enterprise much has been previousiy said in this book.

Doctors.—The medical profession in Mount Morris is ably represented by Drs. George McCosh, W. W. Hanes and C. J. Price. Dr. McCosh acquired his first knowledge of the profession from his father, Dr. John McCosh, under whom he studied for three years. He then took the pre-

DR. GEORGE B. MCCOSH.

is President of the Village Board of Trustees. Dr. C. J. Price, physician and surgeon, is a comparatively new man in Mount Morris, having located here in August, 1900. He took up the practice abandoned by the late Dr. David Newcomer. He is a man of ability and the citizens of Mount Morris are giving him a good share of their patronage. He has more than the usual amount of medical training, having attended both the Northwestern Medical school and the Hahnemann Medical College, taking a special course in the latter. He has also spent his vacations in Chicago in and about the hospitals, and gained much useful experience in that way.

scribed course in the Rush Medical College in Chicago, graduating in 1880. After graduation he commenced practice immediately in Mount Morris, and has built up a large business. He has his office located in rooms over his drug store. Dr. W. W. Hanes has been practicing medicine in Mount Morris since 1886, having come here from Adeline, Ill. He is a graduate of the P. M. Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, and directly after graduation in 1883, he located at Adeline, Ill., and after three years there came to Mount Morris. He has built up a good substantial practice and is considered a good physician. His office is located over C. E. Price's hardware. Dr. Hanes



DR. W. W. HANES PRES. VILLAGE TRUSTEES

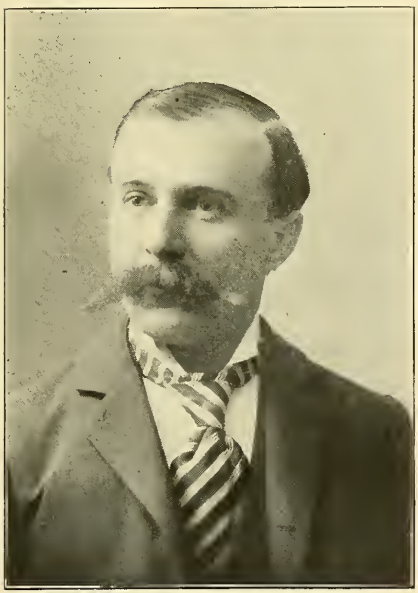
*THE SOUTH BUSINESS BLOCK.*

He occupies the old Newcomer office, north of the College campus, where he can be found night or day.

Veterinary Surgeon. — Dr. D. F. Stevens is the only veterinary surgeon in this vicinity, and is kept constantly busy attending to the many calls for his professional skill. He is a graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College, located at Toronto, Canada, finishing the prescribed course in April, 1888. He came to Mount Morris in July of the same year, and has since practiced at this place.

Dentists.—Mount Morris has two dentists, Drs. J. B. Moats and J. F. Canode. Both are expert workmen and give general satisfaction. Dr. Moats has been established here the longer period. He is a graduate of the Dental Department of the Iowa State University, having previously attended the Chicago College of Dental Surgery. After graduation he located here and built up a good practice. His office is over McCosh's pharmacy. Dr. Canode is also a graduate of the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, where he attended three years. He located in Mount Morris in 1898. His office is located up stairs in the old Bank of Mount Morris building. The office is conveniently divided into a number of nicely-arranged apartments, including a reception room, operating room, and laboratory. Mr. Canode perfectly understands his pro-

DR. C. J. PRICE.

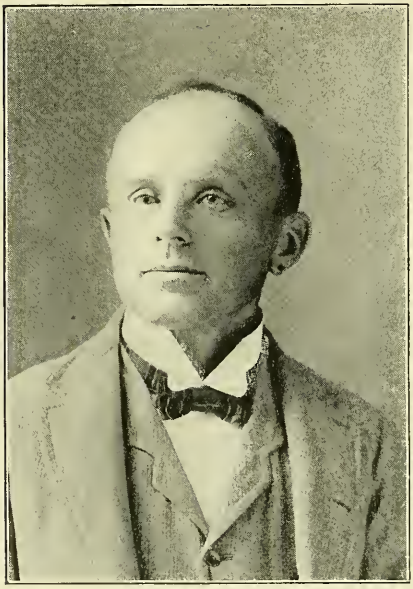


J. B. MOATS. DENTIST.

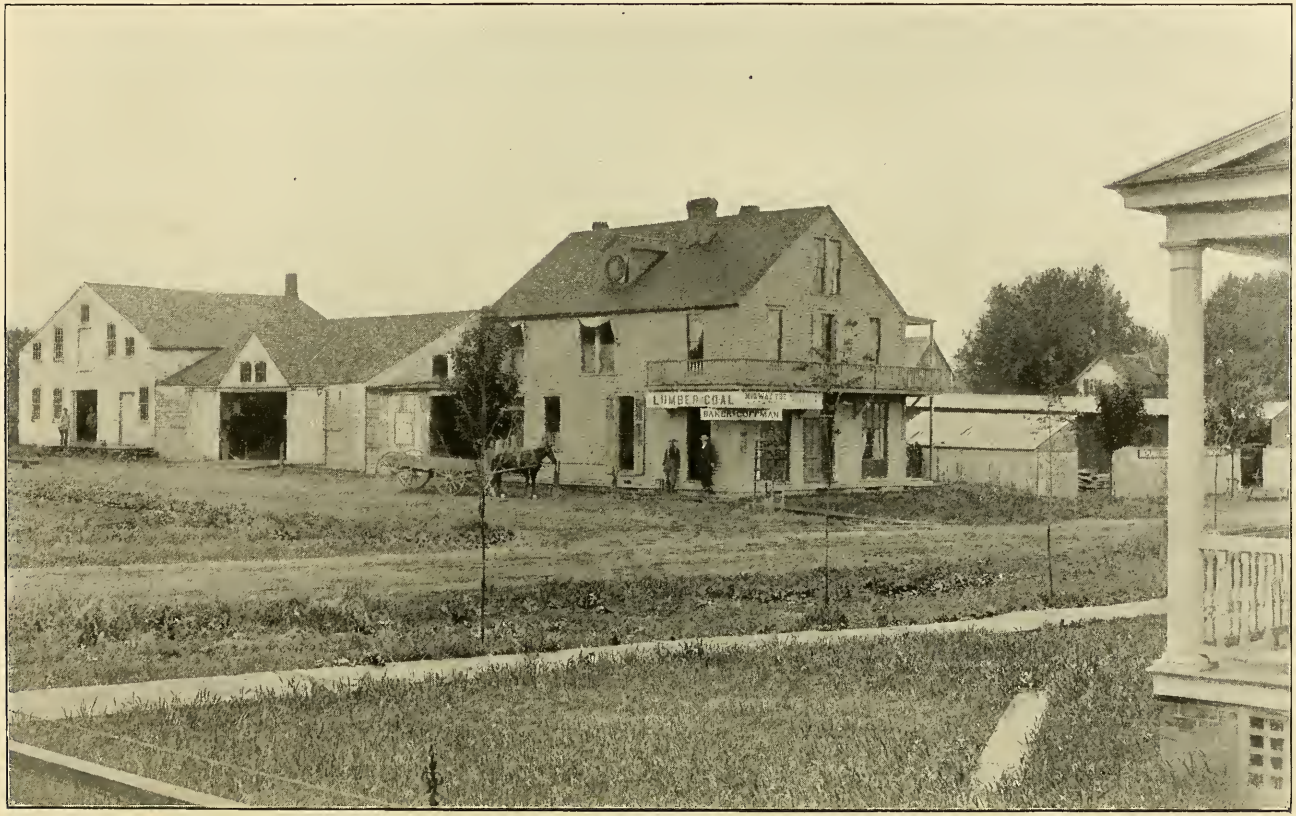
fession and does nothing but first-class work.

Contractors and Builders. —The contracting and building business in Mount Morris is represented by two firms,—Buser & Mumma, Kinsey & Tracy. The firm of Buser & Mumma, is composed of Nathaniel E. Buser and Willis S. Mumma. Mr. Buser, the senior member, commenced his career as a carpenter under Henry Middlekauff in 1868. After an apprenticeship of three years he launched into the building business alone. He first began making plans and specifications in 1876. One of his first contracts was for the present residence of Hon. R. R. Hitt, which has, however, undergone a number of alterations and improvements in later years. At various times Mr. Buser entered in partnerships with other contractors, but worked alone most of the time. George H. Riner was at one time his partner. Mr. Buser has built all of the large buildings in Mount Morris in late years, with few exceptions, and most of the finest residences. Among the large buildings which he has erected are the Lutheran church, the College Hall, the Ladies' Dormitory, the Old Folks' Home, Hotel Rohrer, Seibert block and Sharer's building. Among the scores of fine residences which he has erected in Mount Morris are those of J. L. Rice, Wm. B. Shank, Maj. Chas. Newcomer and Harry Cushing, half-tones of which are shown in the last

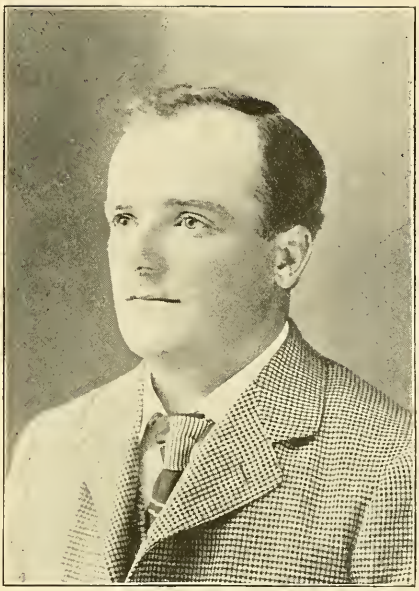
J. F. CANODE, DENTIST.



NATHANIEL E. BUSER.




*MIDWAY LUMBER YARDS AND OFFICES OF BUSER & MUMMA AND BAKER & COFFMAN.*



WILLIS S. MUMMA.

chapter in this book. Mr. Buser has also built extensively in neighboring towns. Among the buildings which might be mentioned is the Catholic church at Oregon; a $20,000 poorhouse at Mount Carroll; two churches in Leaf River; one church in Adeline; numerous country churches and schoolhouses in different parts of this and neighboring counties; and two bankers' residences at Manson, Iowa. He also superintended the construction of a $20,000 building for the Brethren Publishing House at Elgin. He is now the only licensed architect in Ogle county. Mr. Mumma, the junior member of the firm, first commenced an apprenticeship under Mr. Buser, and after only a few years' work acquired a thorough knowledge of the business, and in 1898 Mr. Buser took him in as partner, since which time they have worked together with much success. Mr. Mumma not only superintends the construction of buildings but assists with the work of making plans and specifications. The season of 1900, although a dull season with builders, has brought them an abundance of work. They have erected buildings the aggregate value of which exceeds $25,000, which includes three residences in Elgin. Buser & Mumma occupy offices in the building on Wesley street, erected by Mr. Buser in 1894. The main part of this building was constructed from the old Webb Hotel and the remainder of the lumber used in its construction and also in the building to the west used as a carpenter shop and lumber warehouse, was formerly used in the construction of the California building at the World's Fair. Kinsey & Tracy, the other firm spoken of, consists of Samuel C. Kinsey and Benjamin F. Tracy. John T. Stewart was formerly a member of the firm but has now retired. The remaining members have worked together about fifteen years. They have erected many substantial residences including those of Emanuel Slifer, A. L. Clair, Price Stouffer, William Watts and others.

Music Composers and Engravers.—Prof. D. S. McCosh, who is engaged in this work, has been spoken of at length in the biographical directory. He has a cosy office over the rear of McCosh's Pharmacy and is equipped with all the tools and appliances necessary in the profession. F. F. Knodle has lately acquired a set of engraver's tools and is also now

engraving some music plates, besides pursuing his former work of composing violin and orchestra music and instructing violin pupils.

Laundry.—Previous to January, 1899, the people of Mount Morris were compelled to send their laundry to the surrounding towns to be washed, until on the above date, when Mr. Samuel M. Lyon started a hand laundry here. Mr. Lyon had considerable experience in the business, having formerly conducted the Cascade Steam Laundry at Freeport, and traveled extensively for the Troy Laundry Machine Company of Chicago. He conducted the business with success until Sept., 1900, when he sold out to Guy Smith and Walter McNett, two energetic Mount Morris boys, who are doing their work in a manner satisfactory to all. The presence of the college in Mount Morris makes the investment a paying one. They are equipped with all late-improved machinery, including an ironer, starcher, generator, etc.

Blacksmiths.—Mount Morris has four blacksmiths,—A. C. Lookabaugh, A. W. Neff, N. T. Koontz and J. H. Lambing. Mr. A. C. Lookabaugh first began this business here about ten years ago, at which time he purchased equipment of Hiram Rowe. He first started to learn the trade at the age of nineteen, at Franklin county, Pa. Prior to coming to Mount Morris he operated a shop at Adeline thirteen years. Mr. Lookabaugh is a thorough mechanic, and enjoys a liberal patronage. He is at present assisted in the work by George C. Bain, an expert horse-shoer, and James McCoy, wood-worker. In 1899, Mr. Lookabaugh put in a stock of buggies, wagons and farm machinery. A. W. Neff, another knight of the anvil, learned the trade in his father's shop in Mount Morris. He then secured a position in Dixon, Ill., where he worked four years, and later spent five years at Plymouth, Kans. Finally, in 1873, he returned to Mount Morris, and after working two years for a Mr. Depew, set up in business in 1875 for himself and has worked regularly here, with the exception of five years spent in Iowa. Mr. Neff is a good workman and has his shop located in a building built for the purpose below the Thompson building. N. T. Koontz has been in the blacksmith business in Mount Morris continuously since 1864. He came here from Bruceville, Md., at that time. He learned the trade at a very early age. He was assisted here for a number of years by his son, William Koontz. John H. Lambing first came to Mount Morris in 1899, and entered the employ of A. C. Lookabaugh, until April, 1900, when he started up in business for himself. An entirely new equipment of tools and machinery necessary in the business was purchased. Mr. Lambing does a general blacksmithing business, besides horse-shoeing and wood-working. He gained his knowledge of the trade in his father's shop at Abilene, Kans.

Jeweler and Stationer.—H. E. Newcomer, early in the spring of 1892 began business by opening a little jewelry and stationery store in a one-story frame building, which still stands just one door south of his present location. There, in a little room eleven feet wide and nineteen feet long, with low ceiling and only two small front windows admitting the feeble light, his business grew and thrived. Favored by the confi-

INTERIOR VIEW OF H. E. NEWCOMER'S JEWELRY STORE; EXPRESS AND INSURANCE OFFICES IN THE REAR.

dence of an appreciative public, borne along by the constant efforts of his own hands, and early mastering the secrets of successful advertising, he built up in a few years a most profitable and permanently-established trade. But after a while the little room "grew too small," and in 1899 Mr. Newcomer erected on the adjoining lot, a little south of the "Alden" building, a handsome, one-story brick and stone building, standing today a model of neatness, solidity and beauty. On another page is presented an interior view of his store. In addition to his regular jewelry trade Mr. Newcomer has, by long-continued, persistent and judicious advertising, built up a large mail-order business, every year receiving hundreds of orders for gold and silver watches from customers in nearly every state and territory in the Union, which business in a little while bids fair to exceed his entire local trade. In 1889, when but nineteen years of age, Mr. Newcomer was appointed agent for the American Express Company, and five years later succeeded to the agency of the Adams Express Company, which position he has held continuously ever since, having now served eleven years in this capacity. In 1897 he began the organization of what is now the insurance and real-estate firm of Newcomer & Price, and as junior member of this firm has rendered most valuable assistance in bringing the business up to its present thriving condition, more mention of which is made on this page. In passing, we cannot help noting that in all of Mr. Newcomer's business enterprises the first and most lasting impression one receives is the evidence of that greatest of all true business principles,—perfect system—which probably in a very large degree accounts for the splendid success he has thus far achieved.

Insurance, Real Estate and Loan Agents.—In October, 1897, H. E. Newcomer and C. E. Price entered into partnership and under the firm name of Newcomer & Price, opened an office for the transaction of all classes of business pertaining to insurance, real estate and loans. Beginning at the very bottom of the business, they have forged rapidly forward and upward, until today they enjoy the confidence and patronage of a large community. Loaning money for various eastern companies, buying and selling Iowa and Illinois real estate, and writing all classes of fire, cyclone, life and accident insurance, their business each succeeding year covers a larger and wider territory, and necessitates almost constant additions to their facilities. At this writing nine different insurance companies are represented by this agency,—six for the sale of fire and cyclone insurance, one life, one accident and one for plate-glass and burglary indemnities. A small but very neat office has been fitted up exclusively for their business in a portion of Mr. Newcomer's newly-erected building on the "south side."

Groceries.—Five well-stocked grocery stores in Mount Morris supply the people of the town and surrounding country with good things for their tables. Jacob Strock has been in business in Mount Morris nine years, occupying the brick building on the corner of Wesley and Center streets. The firm name has existed longer without change than any of the other five grocery firms in the village. Mr. Strock carries in stock a

full line of fancy and staple groceries, cigars and tobacco, candies, queensware, and also a line of heavy boots and shoes. He engages Fred Middlekauff as clerk. The Newcomer Company consists of Wm. A. Newcomer, an old experienced groceryman in Mount Morris, and Howard G. Newcomer, who succeeded his father, A. M. Newcomer, in the business. They carry a large stock of everything to be found in a first-class grocery store, besides a number of side lines, including queensware, bakery goods, etc. Charles Sharer prides himself in doing a nice careful business and believes in winning trade by careful buying, courteous treatment and an orderly kept store. He enjoys a large country and town trade. Chris. Reynolds is his efficient clerk. Oliver S. Watts has now been in the grocery business in Mount Morris about four years, during which time he has built up a substantial trade among both town and country people. His stock is nicely arranged in the spacious store-room in his own building, situated just south of the Masonic block. His stock includes everything found in a first-class grocery store. J. P. Holsinger, an experienced grocery clerk, assists in the business, A. R. Binkley's grocery store has been operated in Mount Morris less than two years, the stock having been removed to this place from Forreston. Mr. Binkley has, however, as mentioned on page 44, long been a grocer in Mount Morris. Of late years he has been afflicted with paralysis and unable to attend to the business himself. Mrs. Binkley and Thomas Sprecher attend to the wants of the patrons of the store. George W. Deppen entered the grocery business in Mount Morris in the summer of 1900, buying out the stock previously owned by F. K. Spalding. His store is spacious and well-filled with staple and fancy groceries, besides a small stock of dry goods.

Dry Goods.—G. W. Hamlin, D. S. Cripe and G. W. Deppen are proprietors of dry goods stores in Mount Morris, the first two being exclusively engaged in that business, and the last carrying a small stock in connection with his grocery store. In the present year G. W. Hamlin of Rochelle purchased the large and profitable dry goods business built up by R. E. Arnold, and put the store in charge of his brother, D. F. Hamlin. Besides a full line of all variety of dry goods, they carry a stock of shoes, gents' furnishing goods and carpets. The goods are neatly and tastily arranged, and give the store an inviting appearance. Miss Mae Ankney assists in the sale of goods. D. S. Cripe's dry goods store is situated in the south room of the old Seibert block. He has a large and well-selected stock of goods and enjoys a large patronage. Mrs. Cripe clerks in the store.

Bakers and Confectioners.—E. O. Startzman has been continually engaged in the bakery and confectionery business in Mount Morris for nearly twenty-five years. He occupies the old Startzman building and has spacious and convenient apartments. His oven and bake-shop are in the basement of the building. During the winter season he manufactures most of the candies offered for sale. A cosy ice cream parlor is fitted up in the rear of the store. In the store is his soda fountain, one of the first brought to town. Besides carrying a full line of confectionery and bakery goods he has a partial line of groceries. Walter Wolfe's business is a

GROUP OF MOUNT MORRIS BUSINESS MEN.

*TEN OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION OF MOUNT MORRIS BUSINESS MEN.*

combined bakery, confectionery and restaurant. Mr. Wolfe is a young man full of energy and with a thorough knowledge of the business. He has elegant new quarters in the new Sharer building. The main floor is divided into two apartments, the east half being fitted as a parlor where ice cream is served in the summer time. In the basement is the bake shop, a very large oven and a churning room, where a large ice cream churn is situated. The churn is operated by a 2½ horse-power gasoline engine. In the winter time Mr. Wolfe manufactures large quantities of fine candies and in the summer time, ice cream, which he disposes of by retail and wholesale. The stock carried on hand includes a line of fancy groceries, and the finest candies on the market. Mr. Wolfe started in business on a very small scale, but has succeeded in building up a large and profitable trade. His soda fountain, purchased recently, is as fine a fountain as can be found anywhere in Ogle county.

McCosh's Pharmacy and Jewelry Store.—Dr. G. B. McCosh and C. H. Mishler established a second drug store in Mount Morris in 1896, which, since 1898, has been conducted by the former. Besides the regular stock of drugs, chemicals and medicines, a full line of books and stationery, wall paper, paints and oils, and holiday goods are kept on hand, and nicely arranged in the Doctor's own building, erected in 1892. E. O. Bailey, a registered pharmacist, is employed by Mr. McCosh. In the winter of 1899-'00, the Doctor's son, Blair, attended the Bradley Polytechnic Institute at Peoria, and gained a knowledge of the jewelry and optical professions. An office was established in the pharmacy in May, 1900, since which time he has been regularly engaged in the work. A stock of jewelry and optical goods has been added.

Brayton's Old Reliable Drug and Book Store.—The preceding title is fittingly applied to the large drug and book establishment owned and conducted by Arthur W. Brayton. The name of Brayton has been foremost in prominence in business circles of Mount Morris for nearly sixty years and the known and established reliability of the business conducted by the several generations of the family has well earned the sobriquet of "Old Reliable Drug and Book Store" for Mr. Brayton's place of business. As has been mentioned on page 33, Mr. Brayton's business directly descends from the first store established in Mount Morris, by his grandfather, Daniel Brayton, in 1841, and handed down by his father, Frederick B. Brayton, whose portrait appears on page 34. The stock carried at the present time is one of the largest and probably the most valuable in Mount Morris. He has a full line of drugs, books, stationery, paints, oils, wall-paper, lamps, and a large holiday stock of beautiful and useful articles and toys of all varieties, in season. A news stand with the popular papers and magazines of the day is maintained and has been a feature in the store over forty years. The exceptional neatness and elegant arrangement of the stock is a noticeable feature. Mr. Brayton became a registered pharmacist in about 1880. Besides compounding prescriptions and other pharmaceutical work, he has made a number of chemical discoveries, and manufactures, among other things, a tabule for the preservation

of milk tests, for which a very large sale has developed among creamerymen over many states of the Union. Earl Householder is an apprentice and clerk in the store, and Miss Annabel Smith takes care of the books and also assists with the sales. A very large patronage is enjoyed by Mr. Brayton.

Hardwares.—Each of the two principal business blocks has a hardware store. Clinton E. Price bought out the hardware store owned by J. M. Piper in 1890 and has since been actively engaged in the business. Mr. Price is a very pleasant gentlemen to deal with and has an excellent patronage over a large territory. His store is well stocked with everything in the hardware line, besides stoves and furnaces. A line of buggies is also carried in stock. A tin-shop in the rear is well supplied with all the tools necessary in the tinning and repairing trade. Mr. Price is an experienced plumber and is doing a growing business in that line, especially in the work of putting in furnaces. To assist him in the tin shop Mr. Price hires a tinner and a second man most of the time. J. W. Crump is engaged as clerk in the store proper. The toll station of the Union Central Telephone Company is taken care of by Mr. Price and his assistants. B. E. Avey is proprietor of the second hardware store; the stock is entirely new having been purchased and first placed on sale in March, 1900. Besides the regular lines of heavy and fancy hardware, Mr. Avey deals in stoves and farming machinery. His sale of stoves during the season, 1900, exceeded a half hundred. Among the lines of machinery handled are Champion binders and mowers, Hamilton corn-shellers, etc.

Restaurants and Lunch-rooms.—S. J. Hess carries a large restaurant stock, including candies, cigars and tobacco. He has a soda fountain and serves many of the popular soda drinks during the warm weather. Warm meals are served at all hours of the day and evening. Sprecher Brothers have fitted up the room under Sprecher & Wheeler's store and have a fine new stock of goods on sale. They also serve warm meals. Both Mr. Hess and Sprecher Brothers enjoy profitable trades.

Well-driller.—W. H. Hedges has been drilling wells in the vicinity of Mount Morris for about twenty-five years, having succeeded his father in the business. He recently purchased a new outfit and is now prepared to drill wells to a considerable depth. The well at the creamery, which is 268 feet deep, is the deepest drilled by him. Mr. Hedges also erects wind-mills, in which business, as well as that of drilling, he has no competition in this territory.

Livery Stables.—Long & Son, C. U. Niman, and Wm. H. Keedy represent the livery business in Mount Morris. A. J. and Fred Long purchased the livery stable on Wesley street of George Bovey in 1894, and have since added a number of new vehicles and horses. In January, 1899, C. U. Niman bought from John H. Miller the stable formerly conducted by H. L. Smith. He has eleven head of horses, all good animals, and among other vehicles, a large carry-all to use for picnics, etc. Samuel Halsey assists with the business. Wm. Keedy is the proprietor of the 10-cent feed-sheds and livery stable combined, situated on the corner of Hitt and Wesley streets. His equipment is entirely new and first class.

Barbers.—The tonsorial profession is represented by three first-class barbers,—Wm. Stewart, Levi Bear, and George Toms. Each has a nicely-furnished shop and has about an equal share of patronage afforded by the community. Harry Castle is an apprentice in Mr. Bear's shop and can be found there on Saturdays.

Citizen's Bank.—This bank, the only one in Mount Morris, was established in 1893 by Joseph L. and John H. Rice, the present owners. The former is president and the latter cashier of the institution. They do a general banking business, issue exchange

*TEN MEN MOST OF WHOM HAVE BEEN IN BUSINESS IN MOUNT MORRIS MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.*

GROUP OF MOUNT MORRIS BUSINESS MEN.

and attend to collecting. Their deposits are very large and they are one of the substantial institutions of Ogle county.

Printing Offices.—Two printing offices, the *Index* and the *News*, are maintained in Mount Morris. They have been spoken of in chapter VIII, "The Village Press."

Tinner.—O. L. Doward has a tin shop in the Miller building and besides doing a general tinning and repairing business, has a small stock of tinware for sale. Mr. Doward is a good machanic and does excellent work.

Clothing and Furnishings.—Sprecher & Wheeler are the only dealers in clothing in Mount Morris. Besides a very large stock of everything in the clothing line, they have complete lines of gents' furnishing goods, holiday supplies, boots and shoes, etc. Their store covers more floor space than any other store in town. The members of the firm are John Sprecher, who has been a business man in Mount Morris for nearly forty years, and W. W. Wheeler, who had been a resident of Kansas City for a number of years previous to entering partnership with Mr. Sprecher in 1899. Mr. Sprecher's son, John, and daughter, Kittie, assist as clerks in the store most of the time.

Furniture Dealer and Undertaker.—Wm. H. Miller is the only representative of these businesses in Mount Morris. He occupies the old opera house building and carries a fine line of the best grades of furniture and sells his goods over a large territory of country. In the undertaking business Mr. Miller is thoroughly informed and in this also enjoys a large patronage. He first learned the undertaking profession and became acquainted with the furniture business with his father, Upton Miller, having worked with him twenty years. In 1887 he went to Sterling, Ill., where Prof. Sullivan had organized a class in embalming and from him received his first diploma. Later in 1896 he attended the Champion College of Embalming and received his second diploma. After the passage in 1898 of a law requiring undertakers to hold licenses, Mr. Miller took the examination and was successful. As a result he now holds a license from the Illinois State Board of Health. Mr. Miller has three hearses, a child's hearse and two large ones, the newest, purchased only a few years ago, being one of the finest in northern Illinois. Mr. Miller has been continuously engaged in the business over thirty years and is regarded as one of our most substantial citizens.

Tailors.—Gregor Thompson has a large and well-stocked tailoring establishment, occupying the lower floor of his own building situated on the corner of Main and Wesley streets. Mr. Thompson learned the tailor's trade in Norway and has followed it all of his life. He has been in the business in Mount Morris about fifteen years and has a very large patronage. Fred Frederickson's tailor shop is situated on the south business block, where his patrons keep him busy the year around. More is said of Mr Frederickson in the biographical directory.

Harness Shops.—J. D. Miller has been conducting a harness shop in Mount Morris for twelve years and by square dealing has built up a large trade in all kinds of horse goods. He employs a practical harness maker to assist in making new harness and to do repair work. S. A. Shriner owns the second and only other harness shop in town. He has worked in a harness shop three years at Taneytown, Md., two years in Wellington, Kan., nearly nine years in the shoe factory at Dixon and two years in a harness shop at Dixon. He has been in Mount Morris since November, 1898, and is enjoying a good trade.

Shoemaker.—Rigdon McCoy, formerly a stone-mason, purchased the shoe-making business formerly conducted by Andrew H. Dahl, in September, 1899, and has since acquired considerable proficiency as a cobbler. He is the only shoemaker in town.

Hotel Rohrer.—This hotel, the only one in Mount Morris at present, was built in 1894, mention of which is made on page 42. The present landlord is A. T. Olson, who took charge April 1, 1898, and who had formerly been landlord of Hotel Glen View at Mount Carroll. Hotel Rohrer contains twenty-two sleeping rooms, a sample room for salesmen to exhibit their goods, office, parlors, bath room, dining room and kitchen. The building is steam heated and furnished throughout with city water. Mr. Olson is an expert cook and does the cooking for the hotel himself.

Photograph Gallery.—The Elite Photograph Gallery is owned and operated by Roy Householder, who is a skilled artist and does work in the latest and best styles. He is kept busy the year around and in his work gives the best of satisfaction.

Jewelers.—C. H. Whitman, who is engaged in the watch and clock reparing busi-

ness in the old bank building, served an apprenticeship of three years in Belvidere and later operated a jewelry store there. In November, 1885, he bought out Jacob Fager in Mount Morris and was engaged in the business here for a number of years, selling out to S. Knodle and H. E. Newcomer in 1890. In the spring of the present year, 1900, he again went into the business in Mount Morris, taking up the work abandoned by S. Knodle. He does a general repairing business. Blair McCosh, the only other person in Mount Morris with a knowledge of the trade has been spoken of elsewhere.

Lumber Yards.—Two large and well-stocked lumber yards in Mount Morris attract patronage from many miles on all sides of the village. The firm of Clark & Wingert, composed of Holly C. Clark and Ira W. Wingert, has been doing business at the yards near the depot since 1889. They carry a large stock of lumber and coal and are doing a prosperous business. Harry Longman is a trusted employee of the firm. Baker & Coffman are continuing the business started by N. E. Buser & Co., in 1894. The firm is composed of Jos. T. Baker and Frank Coffman. Their yards are known as the Midway Lumber Yards. Besides a stock of building material and coal they have wagons, binders and mowers, and binder twine for sale. A large business has been built up.

Meat Market.—Numerous attempts to establish and maintain a second meat market have failed and we still have but one. It is at present owned and operated by Charles Wishard and Upton Powell, who purchased the business of Rine & Whitman in December, 1898. They keep on hand a supply of all kinds of fresh, salted and dried meats and game of several kinds in season. The butchering is done at Mr. Powell's home seven miles southwest of Mount Morris. James Mumma assists in the shop.

Creamerymen.—The Mount Morris Creamery, owned and operated by Robert C. McCredie, receives from five to fifteen thousand pounds of milk daily, varying with the season of the year. About 150,000 pounds of butter have been made and marketed during the year 1900. Power for the machinery in the creamery is furnished by a ten-horse engine. Two separators are used and a No. 6 Disbrow combined churn and butter-worker, the latter with a capacity of 1000 pounds at each churning. Andrew Palmgren, an experienced butter-maker, assists in the creamery. A second butter-maker is engaged during the summer time. John Bechtold assisted during the summer of 1900. Mr. McCredie also operates the creamery at Stratford, where a large business is also carried on. Wm. H. Jackson, formerly the owner of the Mount Morris creamery, is still a resident of Mount Morris and operates creameries at Leaf River and Adeline. Both are well equipped and produce large quantities of the highest grade butter. Mr. Jackson is a thorough business man and enjoys the respect of his patrons and friends.

Elevators.—Two firms are at present engaged in the grain buying business in Mount Morris, viz.,—H. H. Clevidence and the Neola Elevator Company. As mentioned before Mr. Clevidence has been continuously engaged in this business since the early seventies and ranks as one of the foremost of the business men of Mount Morris of both the past and present. Mr. Clevidence has charge of the two north elevators, the first with a capacity of 50,000 bushels and the second, 25,000 bushels. During the year ending with December, 1900, Mr. Clevidence shipped about 300 cars of grain to Chicago approximating in the neighborhood of 300,000 bushels. Corn and oats, of course, predominated, with lesser amounts of wheat, rye and barley. The machinery in the north elevator is operated by a 5-horse gasoline engine. Mr. Clevidence also deals in farm machinery, buggies, and binder twine. During the year 1900 he disposed of about $4,000 worth of Deering machinery, $12,000 worth of Rock Island buggies and 16,000 pounds of binder twine. Among the machinery sold were eighteen binders and thirteen mowers. Besides the two elevators, Mr. Clevidence has a large machinery warehouse, which was formerly the Chain-stay fence factory. The Neola Elevator Company's interests are looked after by F. J. Lindsay. The business was but recently purchased of Thomas Williams. The elevator has a capacity of 25,000 bushels of grain. Besides the grain buying business, the company deals in flour and feed, wholesale and retail. A mill for grinding corn meal and chop feed is installed in the elevator and kept quite busy by the patronage of farmers. Power is furnished by a 15-horse gasoline engine, the largest in town. The Neola Elevator Company owns a large number of elevators in Illinois principally along the Burlington railroad.

*A BUSY HOUR AT R. C. McCREDIE'S CREAMERY.*

CARPET-WEAVER.—J. A. Kable is the formost carpet-weaver in Ogle county, doing work in all parts of the county except the extreme eastern section. He is kept busy the year around, with usually from one to four months' orders ahead, awaiting their turn. For the year ending December, 1900, he manufactured in the neighborhood of 4,300 lineal yards of carpet. An assistant is engaged during a part of the year.

STOCK-BUYER.—Samuel P. Mumma is the principal stock-buyer and shipper in Mount Morris. About eighty-five cars of cattle and hogs are shipped to Chicago each year of which all but probably less than a dozen are bought and shipped by Mr. Mumma. During the year 1899 he marketed 7,800 hogs. Mr. Mumma has been in the business since 1872. Price Stouffer and Emanuel Slifer also occasionally ship stock.

BRAYTON'S FRUIT FARM.—A. W. Brayton is extensively engaged in the raising of fruit on his farm, lying at the edge and partly within the corporate limits of the village. His principal crop at the present time is small fruits, including strawberries, gooseberies, currants and raspberries. About 2½ acres are put out in strawberries from which 200 bushels were picked during the season of 1900. He also picked 50 bushels of gooseberries and thirty bushels of currants. A young vineyard has been planted with 100 grapes, and a peach orchard of 100 trees, a pear orchard of 160 trees, a cherry orchard of 200 trees, a plum orchard of 300 trees and an apple orchard of 400 trees. Mr. Brayton also raises a quantity of vegetables of various kinds.

PAPER HANGERS.—Solomon E. Avey, Frank Baker.

PAINTERS.—Solomon E. Avey, Capt. Peter Householder, Melvin Householder, M. F. Maloney, J. W. Granger, Harry Castle, Wm. Beard.

PLASTERERS.—E. J. Allen, Samuel Grimm, A. M. Newcomer.

STONE MASONS.—Jack McCoy, Claude McCoy, D. S. Holsinger, J. W. Blecker.

AUCTIONEER.—Edwin J. Allen.

WOOD WORKERS.—Upton Miller, J. A. Knodle, A. M. Doward, James McCoy.

CARPENTERS.—N. E. Buser, Willis Mumma, Jacob Craley, Alburtus Stutsman, S. C. Kinsey, B. F. Tracy, C. H. Mishler, Benj. Rine, John Merriman, H. E. Longman, Dennis Tracy, Edward Davis, John Jimmerson, M. F. Blake John H. Miller.

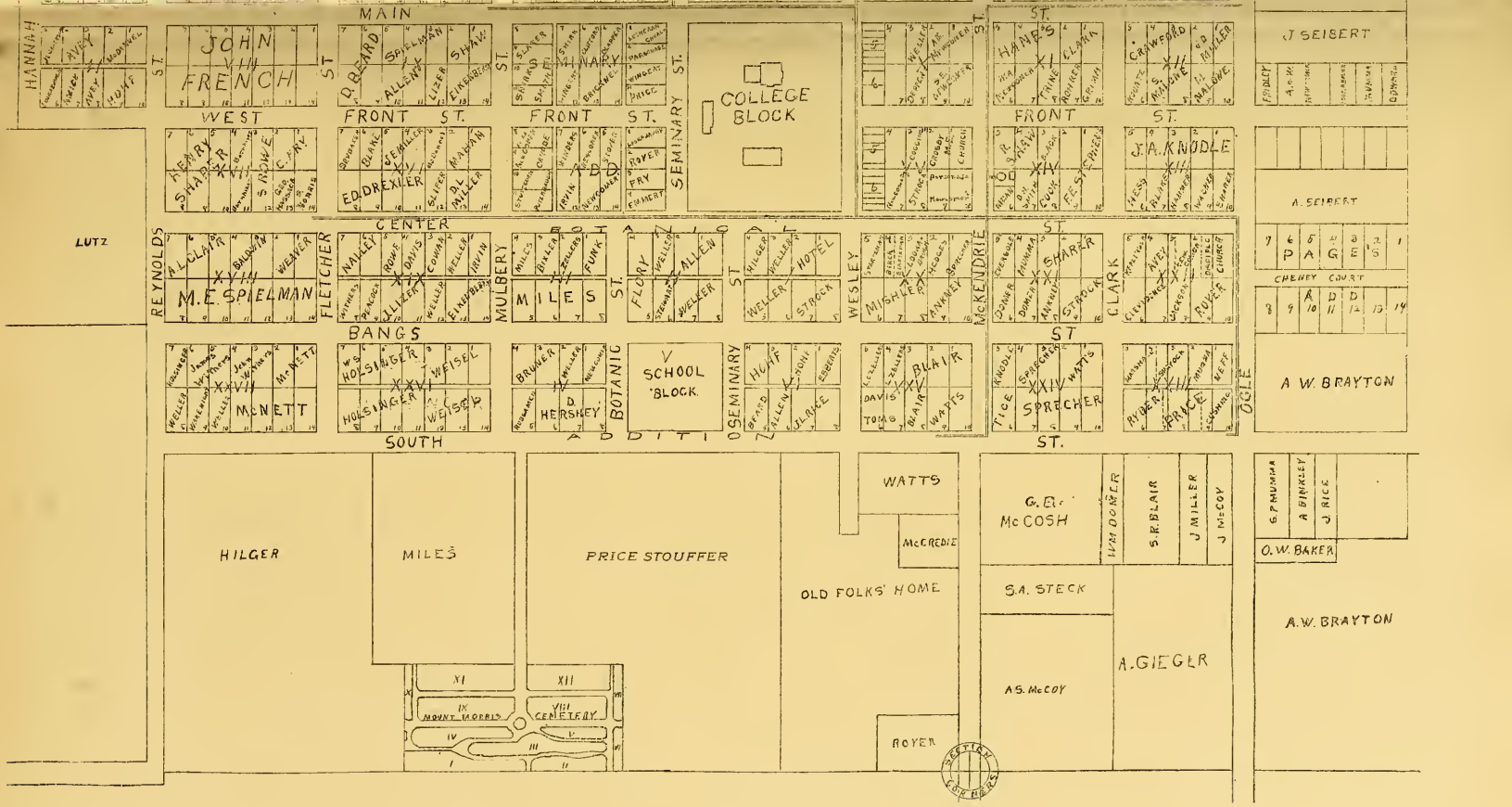
INSURANCE AGENT.—Chas. H. Allen.

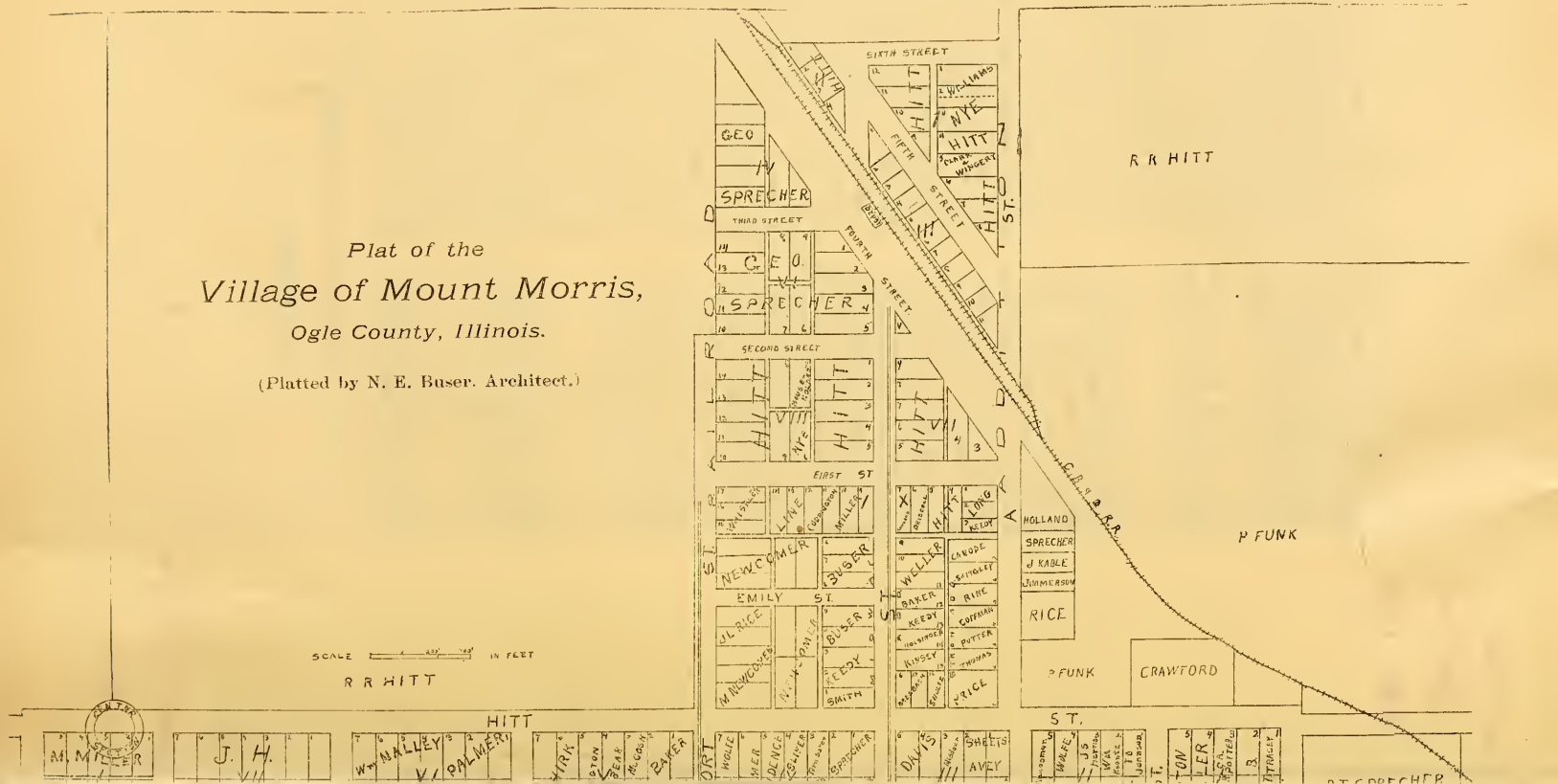
TEACHERS.—Besides the college professors and teachers in the public school, the followlng are among the persons who hold teachers' certificates in Mount Morris: Chas. H. Allen, Jacob G. Miller, T. M. Miller, Robert Buser, R. S. Marshall, Leslie E. Rees, Chas. R. Holsinger, B. F. Canode, Grace Hanstine, Orpha Windle, Edith Rowe, Mary C. Garber, Cleora E. Wallace, Katy Finney, Myrtle Wright, Elsie Emmert, Annie Eversole, Ivy Eversole, Frank Scott.

TRAVELING SALESMEN.—Harry Cushing, George Myers, Roscoe Clark, E. E. Newcomer, B. E. Rine, B. T. Ryder.

U. S. RAILWAY MAIL CLERK.—A. C. Irvin.

MARKET GARDENERS.—John French, Wm. Nalley, John McNett, Wm. Peacock, A. S. McCoy, A. W. Brayton.


MAIN
HANNAH ST.
JOHN FRENCH
WEST
FRONT ST.
FRONT ST.
SEMINARY ST.
COLLEGE BLOCK
HENRY SHAFER
S. ROWE
C. FRY
ED REXLER
D.L. MILLER
HENRY
CENTER
REYNOLDS
FLETCHER
MULBERRY
WESLEY
CLARK
McKENDRIE
M.E. SPIELMAN
MILES
BANGS
SOUTH
BOTANIC
SCHOOL BLOCK
D. HERSHEY
ADDITION
McNETT
SPRECHER
PRICE
OGLE
CHEVEY COURT
A.W. BRAYTON
J. SEISERT
J.A. KNODLE
A. SEIBERT
LUTZ
HILGER
MILES
PRICE STOUFFER
WATTS
McCREDIE
OLD FOLKS' HOME
G.E. McCOSH
S.A. STECK
A.S. McCOY
A. GIEGER
ROYER
SEPTIC TANK
WM DOMER
S.R. BLAIR
J. MILLER
J. McCOY
G.P. MUMMA
A. BINKLEY
J. RICE
O.W. BAKER
A.W. BRAYTON
MOUNT MORRIS CEMETERY


Plat of the
Village of Mount Morris,
Ogle County, Illinois.
(Platted by N. E. Buser. Architect.)
SIXTH STREET
FIFTH STREET
THIRD STREET
FOURTH STREET
SECOND STREET
FIRST ST
EMILY ST.
HITT
ST.
R R HITT
P FUNK
CRAWFORD
SPRECHER
GEO
HOLLAND
J KABLE
RICE
NEWCOMER
BUSER
WELLER
SCALE
IN FEET

# CHAPTER XVI.

## TOWNSHIP BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY.

ALLEN, EDWIN J., auctioneer and plasterer; born October 22, 1852, in Mount Morris township; is married and has two children.

ALLEN, C. H., school teacher and insurance agent; born August 1, 1846, at Keedysville, Md.; married December 22, 1878, to Ella Wolfe; has six children.

ALTER, SHERMAN, farm hand; unmarried.

ANDREWS, CHARLES, farm hand.

ANKNEY, N. A., retired farmer. He was born August 17, 1833, at Clearspring, Washington county, Md., and came to Mount Morris, in 1837, with his mother when but a lad of four years. Mention of this is made on page 15, where his portrait is also shown. Mr. Ankney gained his early education in the country schools of the day. In 1859 he went to California and remained there eight years, engaged in mining and freighting. After his return from California in 1867 he worked at the carpenter trade for a time in partnership with Williams & Middlekauff. Among the buildings they erected were the Silver Creek Dunkard Church and Peter Funk's residence. January 14, 1869, he was married to Maggie Mumma. In 1870 they moved about five miles west of town and engaged in farming for a number of years, there and at other places. In 1886 they quit farming and moved to Mount Morris and have since lived retired lives. They have one daughter, Miss Mae Ankney, who is living at home.

APPEL, HENRY, farmer; born in Germany April 28, 1831; married in 1857 to Mary Shank; eight children, five living.

APPEL, FRED, farmer; born January 11, 1868, in Mount Morris township.

APPEL, GEORGE, farmer; born April 7, 1875, in Mount Morris township.

AVEY, JOSIAH, retired farmer; born January 15, 1845, in Washington county, Md.; married in 1845 to Lizzie Bovey; one son.

AVEY, BENJAMIN E., hardware dealer; was born in Lincoln township, August 3, 1874. He is the only son of Josiah and Elizabeth Avey, now residents of Mount Morris. Mr. Avey early showed ability as an artist, and to develop his talent first attended Mount Morris College and later the Zanerian Art College of Columbus, O. At the latter place after graduation he took post-graduate work under A. C. Foley, now of Paris, and Phil K. Clover, of Columbus, O. After the completion of his education he was engaged by the Fenton (Mich.) Normal College as principal of their department of fine art, which position he filled one year. Later he was professor of art in Eldorado College, at Eldorado, Kan., for a term of three months, until the college went under. His last professorship was with the Michigan Correspondence Normal, located at Gladwin, Mich., which position he filled with credit for three and one-half years. In January, 1899, Mr. Avey came home and purchased the confectionery business of Otto Baker. After a year he disposed of the stock and opened his present hardware and implement house, which is affording him a good business. Mr. Avey is unmarried.

AVEY, SOLOMON E., painter, decorator and paper hanger. He was born in Mount Morris, August 9, 1872, being the son of Thomas and Laura Avey. He gained his education in the Mount Morris public school, graduating with the class of 1890. After leaving school he spent four years in Chicago, learning the painting, papering and decorating trade. In 1894 he commenced working at his trade in Mount Morris, which he has followed successfully since. December 25, 1895, he was united in marriage with Belle Beard, daughter of Oliver and Julia Beard. Three children have

been born to them, viz.: Gladys, born November 1, 1896; Syril, born January 26, 1899, and Olive B., born September 19, 1900. Mr. Avey is busy the year round at his trades and hires an assistant paper hanger and a number of painters during the busy season.

AVEY, THOMAS J., laborer. He was born October 14, 1837, at Bakersville, Washington county, Md. He came west to Illinois at an early day and in 1866 was married to Laura J. Davis, daughter of Solomon and Rebecca Davis. Three sons were born to them, viz.: Ferdinand, Solomon E. and one dead. Mr. Avey's first wife died while quite young and he was again married to Laura Knodle. They have three children, viz.: Minnie, Edward and Lulu. Mr. Avey is a veteran of the Civil War, having served in Company H, 34th Illinois Infantry, during three years of the strife. His hearing was injured at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain by the explosion of a large shell.

AVEY, EDWARD, painter; born in Mount Morris, March 17, 1879; unmarried.

BAIN, SANDERS, farmer; born at Caldwell's Furnace, Pa., March 8, 1852; married Nancy Lookabaugh in 1861; has eleven children, one dead.

BAIN, GEORGE C., blacksmith; born at Lawsonham, Pa., August 15, 1873; married Ina Reese in December, 1899.

BAKER, JOSEPH T., lumber dealer; born in Pine Creek township, December 9, 1842; married Annie C. Herbert in 1866; two children; second marriage in 1895 to Mrs. Julia A. Lester.

BAKER, O. W., laborer; born October 26, 1850, in Washington county, Md.; married Elenore Wilson in 1878; has eight children, five living.

BAKER, HARRY W., laborer; born September 14, 1878; unmarried.

BAKER, WM. F., laborer.

BAKER, FRANK M., paper hanger; born November 14, 1872, in Washington county, Md.; married Grace A. Watts in 1898.

BAKER, ELMER W., laborer; born April 16, 1876, in Washington county, Md.; married Ida M. Wallace in 1897.

BAKNER, FRED, stone mason and butcher; born in Franklin county, Pa.; married Catherine Waggaman in 1850; has eight children, six living.

BARNHIZER, ISAAC, retired; born February 2, 1840, in Ogle county, Ill.; married Susan Artz in 1867; seven children. His first wife died and he was again married to Ann B. Hopewood; three children, one living. Mr. Barnhizer served in Company H, 34th Illinois Infantry, during four years of the war.

BARBER, JASPER, farmer; born December 2, 1873, at Hennepin, Ill.; married Ida Nalley December 9, 1896; two children.

BEARD, OLIVER J., carpenter; born June 1, 1836, at Cavetown, Md.; married Julia A. Houser in 1859; eight children. Mr. Beard served in the army during the Civil War, and participated in many of the bloodiest battles.

BEARD, DANIEL J., farmer; born June 10, 1860, in Washington county, Md.; married Florence O. Koontz in 1883; has one child.

BEARD, LEWIS H., farmer; born September 25, 1868, in Washington county, Md.; married Annie S. Gimple in 1895; two children.

BEARD, JOHN W., painter; born October 27, 1866, at Covetown, Md.; married January 1, 1890, to Mary Gardner; three children.

BEARD, C. N., farmer; born April 22, 1863; married in 1887 to Mary Oswald; three children.

BEARD, GEORGE C., farmer; born March 28, 1875, in Washington county, Md.; unmarried.

BEARMAN, AUGUST, farmer; born in Mount Morris township, February 26, 1868; married Mary Shipman April 21, 1891; five children.

BEARMAN, FRED C., farmer; born May 7, 1856, in Stephenson county, Ill.; married Ida Lookabaugh in 1884, three children.

BEARMAN, HARMON C., farmer; born February 10, 1858, in Stephenson county; married January 12, 1888, to Mary Cramer; three children.

BEARMAN, HENRY C., farmer; born December 17, 1859, in Stephenson county; married Susan E. Wallace; three children.

BEARMAN, F. E., farmer; born January 1, 1870, in Mount Morris township; married Nina Dennis November 25, 1894.

BEAR, LEVI R., barber; was born in Pine Creek township, November 15,

1861, and spent his boyhood days gaining an education in the country school of his district. Since moving to town he has followed the tonsorial profession with success, for a period of fourteen years. Mr. Bear is a musician of considerable ability. His portrait appears in chapter XV.

BEAR, ISAAC M., laborer; born October 27, 1855; unmarried.

BECHTOLD, JOHN W., buttermaker; he was born near McConnell, Ill., where his parents, Levi and Mary Bechtold, still reside. He spent his early life on the farm attending the public school of his district. In the fall of 1898 he entered Mount Morris College and attended during a part of two years, spending the intervening time working on neighboring farms. During the summer of 1900 he was engaged in R. C. McCredie's creamery. The beginning of the new century finds him again a student of the college.

BENNETT, WALTER, carpenter; born August 4, 1850, at Oregon, Ill.; unmarried.

BEAR, JOHN, born in Mount Morris October 27, 1856; unmarried.

BINKLEY, A. R., groceryman; born January 13, 1846, in Washington county, Md.; married Laura Sprecher in 1878: is a veteran of the Civil War. His portrait will be found in chapter XV.

BICKFORD, H. A., farmer; born August 7, 1875, in Canada; married in 1896 to Lilly Grove; one child.

BLECKER, JOHN, stonemason; born June 14, 1847, in Marion township, Illinois; married Sophia E. Grimm, March 26, 1879; one son.

BLAIR, S. R., farmer; born in Maryland township July 1, 1845, and has lived his entire life in or near Mount Morris. He was married July 1, 1867, to Carrie V. Fish; they have one child. Mr. Blair is a veteran of the Civil War, having served in Company I, 140th Illinois Infantry.

BLAIR, WILLIAM M., farmer. He is the only son of S. R. and Carry Blair and was born in Mount Morris township, August 3, 1868. He obtained a good education in the public school of his district. Most of his life has been spent assisting with the farm work on his father's farm, one mile east of town.

BLAKE, M. F., carpenter; born in Washington county, Md., March 24, 1855; married February 2, 1879, to Jennie Augel; has eight children.

BOWMAN, J. W., retired farmer; born July 31, 1846, in Washington county, Md.; unmarried.

BOSSERMAN, L. D., student in college; is studying for the ministry; is married and has one son.

BORNEMAN, LEWIS, farmer; born February 12, 1849, in Germany; married Rebecca Mace in 1881; four children.

BORNEMAN, HENRY, farmer; born May 14, 1857, in Germany; married Lena Horst in 1884; five children.

BOVEY, MICHAEL, retired farmer; was born November 29, 1815, in Washington county, Md., and came to Illinois in 1815. For portrait and further history see page 14.

BOLLINGER, JESSE, laborer; born April 29, 1832, in Adams county, Pa.; married Angeline E. Baker in 1868; they have three children, two living.

BOCK, DAVID, farmer; born December 28, 1858, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Viola Marshall in 1889; have three children.

BOPP, JOHN, farmer; was born October 16, 1829, in Dauphin county, Pa., being the son of Martin and Anna Bopp. He moved with his parents to Maryland in 1845. His schooling was obtained in the district schools of Pennsylvania. In 1864 he moved to Montgomery county, Ohio, and engaged in farming there ten years. Coming to Illinois in 1876, he first settled on a farm owned by R. G. Marshall in Mount Morris township and remained there two years. The following nine years were spent on the Jos. Palmer place, and still later lived on Edward Butterbaugh's farm, three years. In 1893 he moved to his present home just east of Mount Morris. Mr. Bopp was married August 16, 1855, to Matilda Secore, who died in 1896. Seven children were born to them, viz.: John Henry, born 1856, died 1862; Benjamin Franklin, born January 26, 1858, died April 23, 1858; Wm. Thomas, born 1859, died 1860; Mary Ellen, born December 22, 1862; Emma J., December 2, 1866, and Ida May, September 26, 1871.

BONAR, JACOB W., farmer; born

Franklin county, Pa., May 1, 1862; married Olive Hedrick February 26, 1891; have three children.

BRUBAKER, D. E., Dunkard minister; born in East Tennessee March 26, 1841; married Mary Funk in 1860; have six children. The oldest son, Samuel H. Brubaker, is a successful architect of Indianapolis, Ind.

BRICKNEL, EDWIN, retired farmer; born March 28, 1836, at Elsbere, England; married Lydia Miller in 1869; five sons and two daughters were born. Mr. Bricknel is a veteran of the Civil War, having served in the 65th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Company A.; was several times severely wounded.

BRICKNEL, LEWIS O., laborer; born September 29, 1866, in Mount Morris township; married Elizabeth Bain June 20, 1899; they have one child.

BRAYTON, ARTHUR W., druggist; was born January 7, 1847, in Mount Morris; married Hattie Grigsby; they have three sons. For a sketch of Mr. Brayton's business in Mount Morris and his portrait see chapter XV.

BRAYTON, LOUIS, student; is the eldest son of A. W. Brayton; is attending the Illinois State University.

BRAYTON, B. L., student; second son of A. W. Brayton; is attending the Illinois State University.

BRINKER, L. A., farmer; born in Mount Morris township.

BRINKMAN, ROELF, retired farmer; born February 8, 1831, in Germany.

BREAW, LEVI W., farmer; born in Canada May 27, 1867; married Annie Meyer December 15, 1892; one child, dead.

BUTTERBAUGH, EDWARD C., farmer; born July 8, 1863, in Mount Morris township; married in 1882 to Mary C. Popp; they have four children, three living.

BUSER, NATHANIEL E., licensed architect and superintendent of construction. He was born April 28, 1851, at Boonsboro, Md., being the son of Jeremiah and Mary Buser. At the age of 16, in the year 1868, he came west and has been a resident of Mount Morris township since that time. He was married September 15, 1872, to Arbanna Middlekauff, daughter of Christian and Jane Middlekauff. Six children have been born: Florence, born December 14, 1873; Oliver, born June 20, 1875; Pearl, born November 5, 1878; Robert, born September 7, 1880; Ruby, born April 27, 1882; Charles, born October 27, 1885. Oliver and Charles died in infancy. Immediately upon arriving west from Maryland Mr. Buser commences work at the carpenter trade under the instruction of Henry Middlekauff and after three years formed a partnership with him in the contracting business. After several years Mr. Middlekauff dropped out and Mr. Buser conducted the business alone. In 1876 he commenced making plans and specifications. He was one of the first architects in the state to receive a license, and bears the distinction of being the only man in Ogle county now holding one. He went into the lumber and coal business in 1894, taking Jos. T. Baker as a partner the next year. After two years Mr. Buser sold his interest in the stock to Frank Coffman, but retained ownership of the buildings and grounds. In 1898 he formed a partnership with W. S. Mumma, under the firm name of Buser & Mumma, contractors and builders. During the last year they have been building extensively in the city of Elgin. A portrait of Mr. Buser and more concerning his business career will be found in chapter XV.

CANODE, DR. JONAS FINDLEY, dentist. He was the son of Wm. L. and Mary Canode and was born January 23, 1863, in Greenwood, Franklin county, Pa. He came to Rockvale township, Ogle county, Ill., with his parents in 1876 and spent his boyhood days on the farm. He finally became a citizen of Oregon and was engaged in various lines of business there. He conducted a jewelry business and later a grocery there and then spent some time as traveling salesman in the employ of the McCormick Manufacturing Company. Two years were spent in an air brush studio in Rockford and three years in the laundry business in Oregon, he having started the Oregon Steam Laundry. In 1895 Mr. Canode entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery and graduated with honors in 1898. After graduation he located in Mount Morris and has since been employed here, enjoying a lucrative business. Mr. Canode was married Nov. 26, 1896, to Lucy A. Seyster. They have

*Residence and Elegantly Shaded Lawn of Arthur W. Brayton*

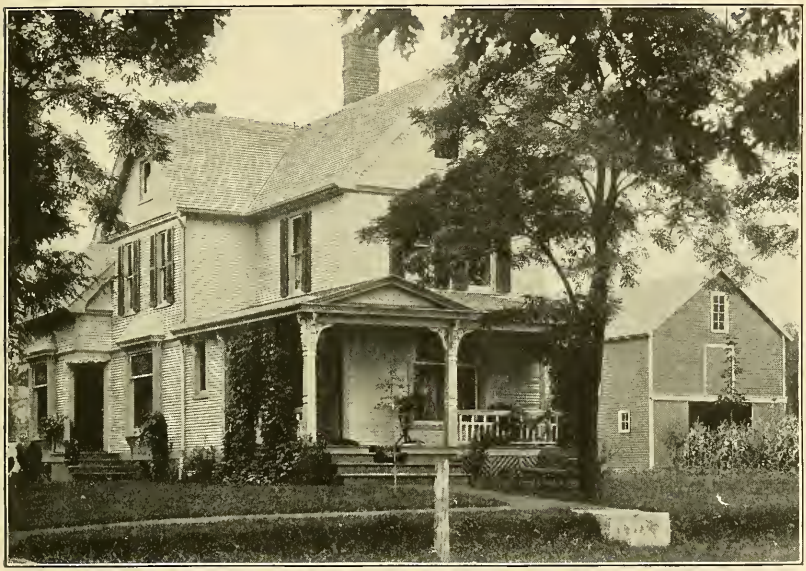
two children: Mary, born April 9, 1899, and Morris, born July 30, 1900.

CANODE, A. E., carpenter; born January 2, 1832, in Washington county, Md.; married Amelia J. Worley in 1854; nine children.

CANODE, B. F., school teacher; born in Franklin county, Pa.; unmarried.

CANODE, CHAS. H., printer; born October 24, 1872, at State Line, Franklin county, Pa.; married Eva Lutz in 1896; was founder and publisher of the Mount Morris *News*, sold out in fall of 1900.

worked on his father's farm in summer and attended school in winter until 1863, when he enlisted in a Massachusetts regiment of infantry, serving in the Army of the Potomac. He took part in nearly all the terrible fighting, beginning with the Wilderness, May 5, 1864, to the surrender of Lee. Was severely wounded at the battle of Sailor's Creek, Va., April 6, 1865. Returning home after the war he attended school, graduating from Eastman's National Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y.,



*Premises of Postmaster Holly C. Clark.*

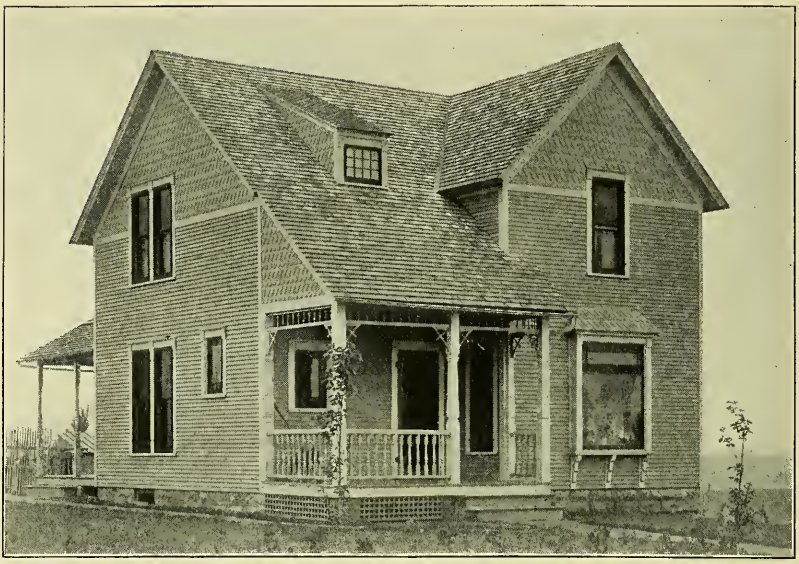
CASTLE, WILLIAM E., farmer; born October 10, 1863, in Washington county, Md.; married Lizzie Fridley March 21, 1889; they have one daughter.

CASTLE, HARRY E., painter; born at Hagerstown, Md., October 23, 1876; unmarried.

CARR, CHARLES O., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, October 6, 1871; married June 12, 1894, to Belle Goodrich; one child.

CLARK, HOLLY C., postmaster; was born in the town of Becket, Berkshire county, Mass., November 20, 1847. He in 1866. Went to Martinsburg, W. Va., in the spring of 1867, where he remained until 1871, engaged in teaching. Coming West in the spring of 1871 he located at Macon, Mo., where he lived two years. He came to Mount Morris in February, 1873, where he has since resided. He continued teaching school until 1880, making thirteen years of service as a teacher. From 1881 to 1884 he was in the lumber business. From 1884 to 1889 he conducted a successful grocery business. In February, 1889, he formed a partnership with Ira W. Wingert, under

the firm name of Clark & Wingert, and bought the lumber business of the Minnesota Lumber Company, at this place, which they have conducted to the present time. In politics Mr. Clark has always been an active Republican. In March, 1898, he was appointed postmaster, which office he now holds. He was married March 31, 1875, to Josephine, youngest daughter of the late Rev. N. J. Stroh. They have three living children—two sons and one daughter—Roscoe C., who is married, resides in Oregon, Ill., and is



*Residence of Prof. A. L. Clair.*

a successful lumber salesman; Holly Riner, who is attending school at Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio, and Grace, who is at home.

Clark, Riner, student, son of Postmaster H. C. Clark, is attending Hiram College at Hiram, Ohio.

Clevidence, Henry H., grain buyer and implement dealer. He was born January 18, 1836, in Washington county, Md., being the son of Samuel and Nancy Clevidence. He gained a practical education in the district schools of his native state. In 1861 he came to Mount Morris and two years later embarked in the mercantile business in partnership with John Sprecher, and retained an interest in the business until 1891. In the meantime, after the coming of the railroad, he began buying and shipping grain and since the early seventies has continually been engaged in that business, with much success. In late years he has also been doing a prosperous machinery business. A portrait and more concerning his business will be found in chapter XV. Mr. Clevidence was married January 5, 1860, to Sophia E. Middlekauff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob C. Middlekauff. Eleven children have been born to them: Mazie M., Clara B., Alvernon, Howard, Arthur E., Bert and Earl. Four are dead.

Clevidence, Arthur E., grain buyer and implement dealer. He is the son of Henry H. and Sophia Clevidence, and was born in Mount Morris June 11, 1868. He attended public school in Mount Morris and later during 1887, 1888 and 1889 attended Mount Morris College. He served as clerk in the store

of Sprecher & Clevidence from April, 1889, to March, 1891. He was married January 24, 1895, to Lillie D. Billig, daughter of Samuel and Emma Billig, of Forreston. Mr. Clevidence is associated with his father in the grain buying and implement business and like his father is an experienced and reliable business man. His portrait appears in chapter XV.

CLOPPER, LUDWICK, laborer; born July 19, 1838, in Wayne county, Ind.; married Melinda Himes in 1859; two sons.

CLOPPER, J. E., farmer; born April 8, 1870, in Henry county, Ind.; unmarried.

CLOPPER, OREN L., born in Delaware county Ind., September 20, 1879; unmarried.

CLAIR, A. L., college professor; biography on page 113 and portrait on page 111.

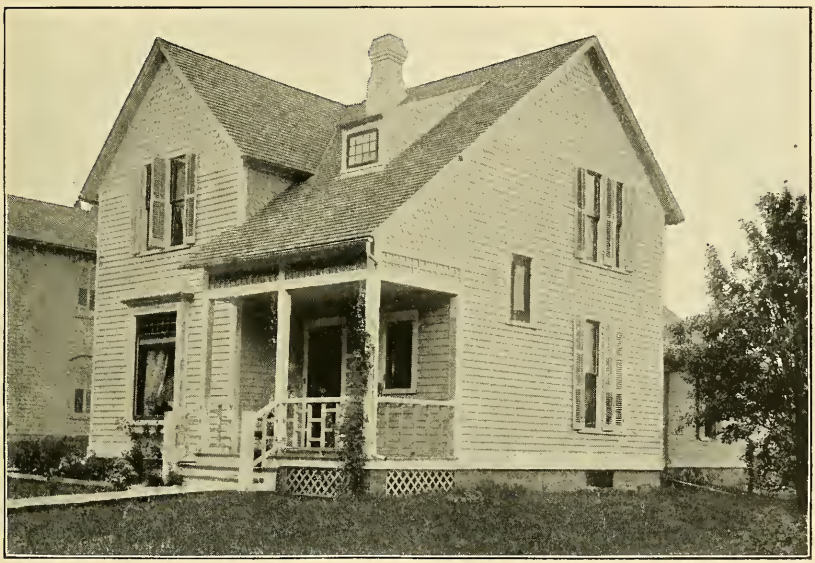
COOK, W. G., retired farmer; born in Marshall county, Ind., November 9, 1841; married Margarette Hoover in 1868; seven children. Mr. Cook is a minister of Dunkard church. He served in the Civil War in Indiana infantry.

COFFMAN, FRANK, lumber dealer; was born in Pine Creek township, May 5, 1870; married Grace McCoy in 1898. Mr. Coffman's portrait appears in chapter XV.

CORNELL, W. D., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, June 26, 1861; married Cora Hogan in 1883; four children, three living.

CORNELL, FRED D., farmer; born September 9, 1855, in Mount Morris township; married Emma Bly in 1883; two children.

COWAN, GEORGE, builder of cement walk; married Elizabeth Slifer; four children.



*Residence of Mrs. Mary Coffman.*

CODDINGTON, ERNEST, paper cleaner and decorator; born in Pine Creek township; married Anna Ridenour; two children.

CODDINGTON, HARRY, laborer; born in Pine Creek township; unmarried.

CRAWFORD, CHAS., retired; born November 17, 1838, in Cattaraugus county, N. Y.; married Frances E. Hoverland in 1873.

CRAWFORD, MARK LEROY, harnessmaker. He was born at Pierceton, Ind., June

30, 1876, being the son of Jasper and Cally Crawford. He attended the public school at Pierceton and graduated with the class of 1899, and entered the employ of J. D. Miller as harnessmaker, at which trade he has had considerable experience. He worked at his trade two years at Warsaw, Ind.

CRALEY, JACOB, carpenter, born at Leitersburg, Pa., October 9, 1835; married Anna A. Canode in 1860; four children.

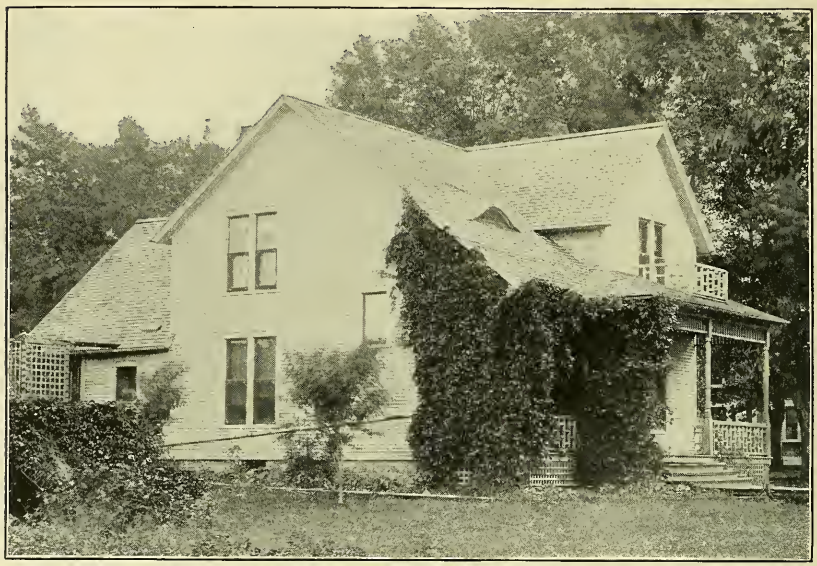
CRALEY, DAVID B., telephone operator; born in Franklin county, Pa., August 8, 1871; unmarried.

CROSBY, ROBERT, laborer; born September 5, 1844, at Philadelphia, Pa.; married Mary E. Cozzens in 1874; one son. Mr. Crosby is a veteran of the Civil War, having served in Company K, 149th Illinois Infantry.

CROSBY, FRED, printer; born August 21, 1878, in Mount Morris; unmarried.

CRIPE, DAVID S., dry goods merchant; born February 17, 1864, at Sacramento, Cal.; married Elva Newcomer, daughter of Eld. M. S. Newcomer; one son

CROWELL, C. C., proprietor bus and dray line. He was born May 2, 1857, in Marion township, Ogle county, where he grew to manhood. In April, 1869, he left Illinois and went to Iowa with three of his uncles, where he was engaged a number of years breaking horses and engaged in other work. In 1874 he returned to Ogle county and pursued the avocation of a farmer for two years, east of Oregon. In 1876 he worked in Mount Morris with W. H. Hedges and the following year spent the summer in Iowa. Returning again to Mount Morris in 1878, he engaged for a number of years in teaming. In 1892 he first took charge of the dray line and carrying of mail and express. He has since conducted the draying business against all competition. He has also been operating the ice business in Mount Morris during all this time, and for four years has run the street sprinkling business in the summer time. Mr. Crowell was first married in 1880 to Alice Knodle, who died in 1892. He was again married in 1895 to Virgie I. Stevens, daugh-



*Residence of Harry Cushing.*

ter of Mr. and Mrs. James Stevens. They have three children.

CRUMP, JOHN W., hardware clerk; born December 17, 1854, in McCoupin county, Ill.; married Amanda Gibson in 1879; two children.

CUSHING, HARRY W., traveling salesman; born September 1, 1862, at Grand Detour; married Lillian Farwell in 1887; they have one son and one daughter. Mr. Cushing travels for the Supplee Company, of Philadelphia, one of the largest hardware firms in the United States.

CURRY, WM. O., farmer; born February 5, 1856, in New York; married Emma Harmon in 1881; six children.

DAVIS, JOSEPH L., laborer; born in Washington county, Md., November 20, 1833; married Irene Bar in 1865; seven children.

DAVIS, EDWARD G., carpenter; born Washington county, Md., August 16, 1874; married Emma Wissinger in 1895; two children.

DAVIS, LEWIS L., laborer; born Boonesboro, Md., May 18, 1842; unmarried; served in Civil War in Company I, 140th Illinois Infantry.

DAVIS, G. W., laborer; born January 21, 1845, at Boonesboro, Md.; married Emma Skinner in 1870; four children.

DAVIS, JAMES S., farmer; born August 27, 1852, in Washington county, Md.; married Della Crawford in 1881; two children.

DAVIS, WM. D., retired farmer; moved from Pine Creek township in November, 1900; born in Washington county, Md.

DEPPEN, GEORGE W., grocer; born in Dixon October 13, 1860; married Nettie Neff; two children.

DEPPEN, JOHN R., retired; born March 17, 1831, at Reading, Pa.; married Sarah J. Shelhamer in 1853; one son living.

DIEHL, JOHN, farmer; born in Germany, September 26, 1843; married Anna C. Horst in 1868; seven children, five living.

DIEHL, GEORGE, farmer; son of John Diehl; unmarried; born in Mount Morris township.

DOWARD, ALFRED M., mechanic. He is the son of Jesse and Esther Trautman, and was born October 5, 1833, at Reading, Pa. When three years of age he was taken by his parents to Delaware county, Ohio, and there gained his education in the public schools. He came to Illinois in 1850, and to Mount Morris in 1857. In 1863 he enlisted in the 4th Illinois Cavalry and served during the remainder of the war. He received an honorable discharge in July, 1865. Mr. Doward is an expert saw filer and woodworker and is continually kept busy at work in his shop in the rear of A. N. Neff's blacksmith shop. He is a particularly fine woodworker. Mr. Doward was married in 1860 to Annorah Nichols. They have six children, viz.: William, born December 24, 1864; Frank M., born June 12, 1862; Oscar L., March 3, 1864; Zenas O., June 19, 1866; Winnie O., June 19, 1866; Daisy D., August 2, 1872.

DOWARD, O. L., tinner; born March 3, 1864; married January 26, 1883, to Helen Lizer; three children, two living.

DOWARD, WM. A., laborer; born in Mount Morris, December 24, 1860; unmarried.

DOMER, W. H., teamster; born in Mount Morris township, April 20, 1859; married Dec. 19, 1881, to Mary K. Alter; four children.

DRISCOLL, JAMES, railroad section boss; born at Rochelle, Ill., June 15, 1857; married April 21, 1878, to Nellie O'Loughlin; five children.

DRUMHELLER, WILLIAM, carpenter; born in Leaf River township April 3, 1871; married December 22, 1897, to Ida E. Wakenight.

DRUMKELLER, CHAS. F., carpenter; born in Leaf River township June 7, 1866; married December 22, 1897, to Sadie B. Wakenight.

DUNNE, SIMON E., farmer; born in Germany in 1839; married in 1866 to Charlotte Navelsick; five children, one dead.

DUNNE, AUGUST, farmer; born in Mount Morris township; is the son of Simon Dunne; unmarried.

EASTON, JERRY, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., August 1, 1854; married September 17, 1878, to Susan Woltz; seven children.

EASTON, WILLIAM, farm hand; son of Jerry Easton; married in 1899 to Flora Finger; one child.

EMMERT, GEORGE, son of Daniel Emmert; born in Mount Morris township February 27, 1875; unmarried.

EMMERT, DANIEL, laborer; born in Washington county, Md., May 19, 1850; married in 1873 to Emma A. Potter; four children.

EVERSOLE, DANIEL, retired farmer; born at Harper's Ferry, Va., April 19, 1831; married in 1858 to Catherine Buser; six children.

FARWELL, GEORGE V., farmer; born March 18, 1860, in Mount Morris township; son of H. J. and M. J. Farwell; has served as supervisor from Mount Morris township four years; unmarried.

FAIRLAMB, W. F., laborer; born in Lancaster county, Pa., March 14, 1865; married in 1896 to Nettie Kerns, who died in 1899; two children.

FELTMAN, GEORGE, farmer; born in Germany April 26, 1848; married in 1871 to Cathrina Kleemann; ten children.

FELTMAN, JACOB, farmer; born in Mount Morris township December 22, 1874; married in 1899 to Annie Jones.

FELTMAN, WILLIAM, farmer; born October 12, 1876, in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

FELKER, WILLOUGHBY M., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., February 22, 1844; married in 1868 to Alice Butterbaugh; four children.

FELKER, MERRITT, farmer; born in Mount Morris township June 15, 1878; married in November, 1900, to Maude Wilson.

FELKER, HENRY, farmer; born in Mount Morris township October 15, 1872; unmarried.

FELKER, WILLIAM, farmer; born in Mount Morris, February 2, 1867; unmarried.

FEW, WILLIAM, farmer; born December 3, 1863, in Washington county, Md.; married Anna Ridenour in 1888; two children.

FINNEY, WILLIAM, carpenter; born at Sterling, Ill., December 25, 1849; married in 1871 to Melinda Shafstal; two children.

FINNEY, IRA E., school teacher; born near Adeline, Ill., March 13, 1873; unmarried.

FINNEY, ALVIN, farmer; born March 8, 1872, in Lincoln township; married Mary A. Newcomer in 1897; one child.

FISCHER, JACOB, farm hand.

FLORY, A. M., retired farmer; born in Augusta county, Va., March 1, 1843; married March 17, 1870, to Susan C. Miller; three children.

FLORY, H. D., student; born in Iowa county, Iowa, September 27, 1876; unmarried.

FLORY, E. N., student; born in Iowa county, Iowa, April 7, 1879; unmarried.

FLOTO, LEWIS, farmer; born in Mount Morris township May 8, 1863; married in 1888 to Minnie Bearman; three children.

FOUKE, DORSEY, laborer; born March 22, 1836, at St. Louis, Mo.; married Elizabeth Alsip November 12, 1874; four children.

FOUKE, FRED, blacksmith; born November 21, 1877, in Mount Morris; unmarried.

FRAWERT, FREDERICK, farmer; born in Germany August 14, 1839; married in 1886 to Mary Rohns; three children.

FRAWERT, HENRY C., farmer; born in Mount Morris township June 27, 1873; married in 1897 to Amanda Sandmeyer; three children.

FRIDLEY, JOHN, retired farmer; born in Rockvale township September 30, 1838; married in 1863 to Lizzie Hildebrand; seven children; married second time November 24, 1886, to Cecetia (Adams) Middlekauff.

FRIDLEY, IRVIN, farmer; born in Mount Morris township April 22, 1877; unmarried.

FREY, YOST, farmer; born in Germany June 29, 1850; married in 1880 to Anna Konig; six children.

FRENCH, JOHN H., market gardener; born in Washington county, Md., August 12, 1837; married in 1863 to Malinda Hause; three children, one dead.

FRY, FRED E., teamster; born in Maryland township July 26, 1868; married in 1892 to Sarah Lizer; three children.

FREDERICKSON, FRED, tailor, was born March 20, 1872, in Copenhagen, Denmark, being the son of J. P. E. and Johanne Marie Frederickson. At the age of thirteen he graduated from public school and was then apprenticed in a large tailoring establishment in Copenhagen to learn the tailor's trade. After an apprenticeship of five years he went to Norway and worked in several cities. From Norway he went to Stockholm, Sweden, and after traveling over that

country a few months he returned home. He next went to Hamburg, Germany, and after traveling over the principal portions of Germany he went to Calais, France, where he remained nine weeks. He then returned home and was examined for the army, but was rejected. He then determined to try his fortune in the United States. Accordingly he took a steamer for New York and after landing came direct to Mount Morris and commenced work for Gregor Thompson. After working for him a short time he concluded to establish a business of his own. He has now been in business about six years and has built up a good substantial trade. Mr. Frederickson was married September 17, 1893, to Fannie Wilson, a native of Ogle county.

FUNK, PETER, retired farmer; was born at Beaver Creek, Md., January 18, 1818, being the son of Isaac and Anna Funk. He came to Mount Morris in 1844 and for many years was engaged in blacksmithing and the livery business in the village. He also cultivated his farm situated near the village limits Mr. Funk was married May 22, 1844, at Richmond, Ind., to Sarah Ann Hornish. One child, Chas. W. Funk, was born to them, who died at the age of twenty years. Mr. Funk's first wife died only six years after their marriage and he was again married March 10, 1852, to Isabella Heller. To them were born seven children, viz.: Mary Ella, born January 30, 1853, married H. J. Griswold in 1875; Anna S., born August 5, 1855; Sarah E., born December 11, 1857, married F. N. Jackson in 1883; Lillie B., died in infancy; Arthur L., born November 24, 1863, married in 1888 to Lucy A. Beal, and after her death a second time to Cora B. Tyler in 1900; Ida and Isabel, twins, born September 29, 1866, the former married to E. O. Fitz in 1890 and the latter to M. W. Fitz in 1884.

FUNK, GEORGE, farmer; born August 8, 1839, in Germany; married in 1865 to Catherine Smith; five children.

FUNK, OTTO, farmer; born in Germany October 19, 1873; married in 1889 to Triene Wichman; one child.

FURREY, GEORGE W., college professor; portrait on page 111 and biography on page 115.

FUNK, WILLIAM H., farmer; born in Germany April 10, 1868; married in 1896 to Minnie Frawert; four children, three dead.

FUNK, HENRY, farmer; born in Germany; unmarried.

FUNDERBURGH, EMANUEL J., farmer.

GARKEY, HENRY C., farmer; born in Germany May 1, 1852; married February 7, 1878; seven children.

GAFFIN, W. H., farmer; born in Leaf River township April 27, 1850; married February 10, 1876, to Frances Gaffin; five children, one dead.

GAUDE, PAUL, farmer; born in Germany.

GESFORD, WM., farm hand.

GENANDT, H. A., farmer; born in Germany June 30, 1861; married in 1880 to Johanna Hageman; two children.

GEIGER, W. ALONZO, farmer; born at Dubuque, Iowa, November 24, 1862; married in 1885 to Susan Edwards; four children.

GIMPLE, DAVID, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., September, 1841; married in 1867 to Rebecca Grove; three children, one dead.

GIMPLE, EDWARD, farmer; born in Washington, Md., September 19, 1875; unmarried.

GIBBEL, I. D., engaged in raising small fruits; born in December, 1858, Burks county, Pa.; married in 1881 to Mary Dross; seven children.

GIGOUS, ANDREW, farmer; born in Oregon township October 9, 1841; married in 1864 to Lydia Rowland; eight children, four dead; married second time to Maria McKee, January 4, 1882; three children.

GLASGOW, WILSON, farmer; was born August 14, 1839, in Blair county, Pa., being the son of Taylor W. and Ann Glasgow; married in 1863 to Elizabeth J. Domer; two children; married second time to Clara M. Wagner, in 1882; five children.

GLOSS, WILLIAM L., farmer; born in Lincoln township July 31, 1861; married in 1897 to Emma Bakener.

GLOSS, ABRAM, laborer; born June 30, 1833, in Washington county, Md.; married March, 1860, to Cordelia Fletcher, who died February 15, 1879; nine children, six dead.

GLOSS, O. C., retired farmer; born

February 16, 1854, in Washington county, Md.; married in March, 1879, to Florence B. Stonebraker; two children.

GROVE, JOHN J., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., December 15, 1872; married in 1892 to Wilhelmina Bruner; three children.

GRIMM, SAMUEL M., plasterer; born November 26, 1847, at Sharpsburg, Md.; married in 1870 to Sarah C. Rowe; one child.

GRIMM, O. H., laborer; born in Mount Morris December 21, 1873; married November 15, 1899, to Elsie V. Winters.

GRANGER, J. W., painter; born June 14, 1877, at Sharon, Wis.; unmarried.

GRANGER, B. I., barber; born in Mount Morris March 1, 1871; married August 8, 1900, to Viola Ingall.

HANES, W. W., physician and surgeon; born in Pine Creek township June 13, 1861; married August 14, 1889, to Georgia Rohrer; one child. See portrait in Chapter XV.

HARTJE, AUGUST, farmer; born in Germany May 19, 1859; came to America in 1879; married March 26, 1885, to Amelia Schnulle.

HALTER, JOHN, farmer; born in France July 4, 1852; served in French army several years; married August 6, 1882, to Catherine Thompson; three children.

HALSEY, S. C., hostler; born in Washington county, Md., August 20, 1855; unmarried.

HANEY, H. B., farmer; born in Rockvale township September 29, 1869; married February 26, 1896, to Mabel Smith; one child.

HAMMOND, WILLIAM J., farmer; born in Leaf River November 24, 1864; married in 1881 to Ada C. Thomas; one child.

HAMLIN, DAVID FRANKLIN, dry goods merchant; born November 16, 1858, at Lynnville, Ill.; married.

HAGEMAN, HENRY, SR., farmer; born in Germany January 13, 1831; married to Carolina Meyers; six children.

HAGEMAN, FRED H., farmer; born in Germany March 16, 1864; married; five children.

HAGEMAN, HENRY F., farmer; born in Germany January 13, 1857; married August 9, 1881; eight children, one dead.

HAGEMAN, LEWIS, farmer; born September 15, 1877, in Mount Morris township; married in 1898 to Gussie Miller; three children.

HAGEMAN, HERMAN H., farmer; born in Germany December 16, 1860; married October 7, 1882, to Minnie Weegens; four children; married second time to Maggie Genandt; two children.

HEALY, WAYNE, J., farmer; is the son of Sullivan and Emiline Healy and was born in Eagle Point township March 8, 1854. He attended his home school until seventeen years of age, when he took up studies in the Polo High School and was for three years under the tutorship of J. H. Freeman, one of Ogle county's very brightest instructors. When Mr. Healy was one year old his parents moved to Whiteside county, but moved back to Ogle county in March, 1864, and he lived with them on the farm until he became of age. He farmed his father's farm from 1871 to 1879, when, his health failing him, he was advised by friends to go to California. He remained in California three years, when he came back well and hearty. Upon his return (1882) he took charge of his sister's farm, which he cultivated successfully for seven years. Finally, in 1894, he moved to Mount Morris township, where he has since resided. Mr. Healy was united in marriage September 3, 1888, to Miss Luella Alice Rhinehart. Five children have been born to them: Floyd S., July 11, 1889; Ethel E., August 26, 1891; Ruth C., July 17, 1893; Monte D., March 23, 1895; Hazel V., July 21, 1897.

HESS, SIDNEY J., township collector and proprietor of restaurant; son of Willoughby and Mary Hess; born June 11, 1870, in Leaf River township. His education was acquired in public school and later he took the shorthand and typewriting course in Mount Morris College. In 1897 he purchased the restaurant stock of Ed. Mullendore and to the present time has worked up a good patronage. Mr. Hess was elected township tax collector in 1898 and has held the office with credit since that time. A portrait of Mr. Hess appears in Chapter XV.

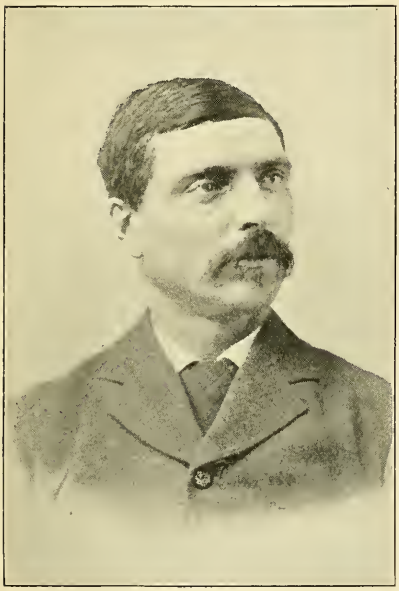
HEDGES, W. H., well driller; born November 20, 1849, in Hedgesville, Berkley county, W. Va.; unmarried.

HERLYN, LUCAS, farmer; was born in

Germany March 15, 1853; married in 1881 to Frouke Anderson.

HEFLER, C., college janitor; born March 26, 1858, at Danville, Pa.; married in 1898 to Ellen Holsinger.

HERSHEY, DANIEL, carpenter; born December 29, 1845, in Pine Creek township; married in 1866 to Barbara Johnson; four children—Minnie Katherine, who married Prof. W. R. Young, principal of the Idaville public schools; Martha, who married Prof. G. W. Furrey, of Mount Morris College; Pearl, who



*Jonathan Hiestand, J. P.*

is at home, and Orney, who is in California.

HIESTAND, T. M., farmer; born in Leaf River township August 14, 1852; married September 11, 1879, to Laura J. Pond; two children, one dead.

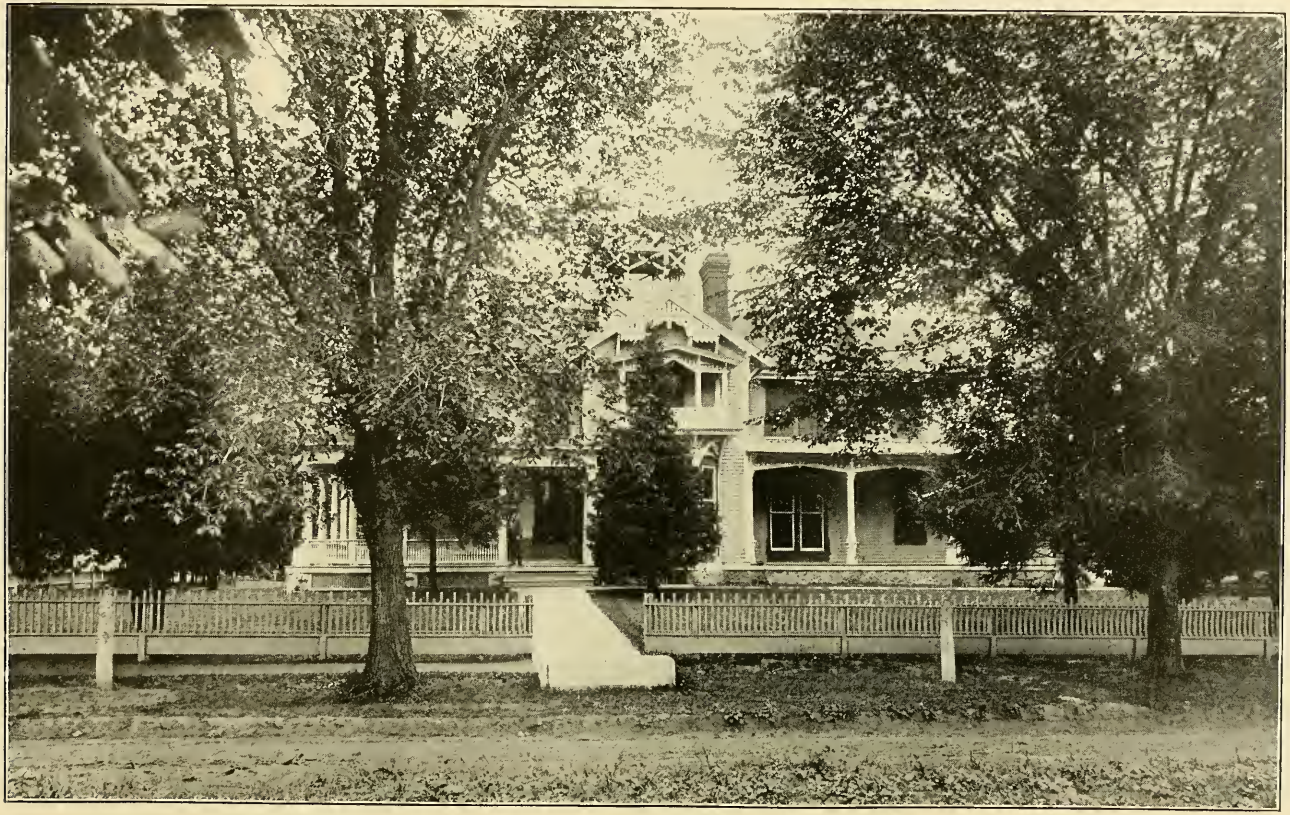
HIESTAND, JONATHAN, justice of the peace and notary public; son of Henry and Elizabeth Hiestand, who settled in section 4 in 1837. He was born in Mount Morris township November 21, 1842, and gained his early education in the district schools, and during the '60s attended Rock River Seminary. His early life was spent on the farm, but he came to the village of Mount Morris in 1885. He has taught school several years and acted as town clerk one year; has traveled extensively over the United States and visited Europe in 1891. Mr. Hiestand has literary tastes and keeps well informed on topics of the day. He is unmarried.

HILGER, JACOB, retired farmer; born in Germany December 21, 1820; married in 1852 to Apelonia Deitrich; two children.

HILGER, FRED, farmer; born March 17, 1859, in Mount Morris; married in 1891 to Hannah Berge; four children.

HITT, HON. ROBERT R., member of Congress from this district, is the most distinguished and highly respected citizen of Mount Morris. Ever since there has been such a place as Mount Morris, closely connected with it has been the name of Hitt: and, in fact, one of the very first white men to set foot in Mount Morris township was Samuel M. Hitt, an elder brother of Rev. Thomas S. Hitt, father of the subject of this sketch. After the planting of the Maryland colony, as narrated in Chapter I, so-called because of the number of settlers from that state who had migrated to nothern Illinois, Rev. Hitt, upon the solicitation and advice of his brother, decided also to locate in the new country and accordingly with his family, including Robert, he started overland for Mount Morris from Urbana, Champaign county, Ohio, where he arrived in the fall of 1837. Upon his arrival the family occupied a house west of the present village on the Lohafer farm; but later he purchased a tract of land containing one thousand acres, located about two and a half miles south. He soon removed, however, to a tract reserved for him by his brother, Samuel, comprising what is now the Railroad Addition to the village and the farm immediately northwest, now being cultivated by Gera Watts. It was here that this illustrious family grew in manhood and womanhood. The father, Thomas S. Hitt, a portrait of whom appears on page 177 of this volume, was a Methodist minister, and was a man of fine physique and mental training. More is said of him on page 176. Robert, the second son, was

born at Urbana, Ohio, January 16, 1834, and was therefore but three years of age upon arriving with his father at Mount Morris. He received his first learning under A. Quimby Allen, a teacher who had charge of a private school established by a number of the early settlers. Later Mr. Hitt continued his education in classic old Rock River Seminary, which has turned out so many noble men and women. After several years' preparation there he entered Asbury University, Greencastle, Ind., where he graduated in 1855. He was exceedingly fond of books and at the time of his graduation he had not only acquired an excellent all-round education, but was also an expert at shorthand, an art little known at that early day. He began his active career, after a year's rest at home, as a law reporter and newspaper writer. While thus employed in the courts in Chicago he became acquainted with Abraham Lincoln, who was at that time practicing law in Illinois. Subsequently he accompanied Mr. Lincoln as reporter upon that remarkable speech-making tour of the state in 1858, beginning at Ottawa, August 21, and closing at Alton, October 15. It was during this time that occurred the famous Lincoln-Douglas debate, and Mr. Hitt was assigned to report it, which he did with credit. To this work of Mr. Hitt the country is indebted for the complete reports of this remarkable campaign, which brought the most marvelous man of the age for the first time to the knowledge of the nation. During the legislative sessions of the Assembly of Illinois, in 1858, '59 and '60, Mr. Hitt was the official reporter employed by the state. In 1863 he was engaged in the Senate of the United States as secretary of a committee examining into the naval expedition of Burnside and Banks In 1865 he accompanied a board of treaty commissioners to the Northwest, ascending the Missouri river a distance of 1,500 miles for the purpose of negotiating with the Indian tribes in what was then a wilderness. Most of the following year he passed at Washington and at Raleigh, N. C., as recorder of military courts. In 1867-8 he made an extensive tour of Europe and Eastern countries, during which time he visited Switzerland, Scotland, Italy and Egypt. In 1871 he went to Santo Domingo with three commissioners who were sent to that island by President Grant to inquire into its resources and affairs, with a view to its annexation to the United States. In the latter part of this year and in 1872 he was busily engaged as reporter of the noted Kuklux committee of the two houses, and wrote a large portion of their report of thirteen volumes. For some time after this he acted as private secretary of Senator O. P. Morton, who afterward became vice-president of the United States. In 1873, Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris had failed financially and Mr. Hitt, not forgetful of the deep interest taken in it by his father, bought it, put it in repair and started it again, but sold out after six years, as previously narrated in Chapters V and VI of this book. On the 28th of October, 1874, Mr. Hitt was united in marriage to Miss Sallie Reynolds, of Lafayette, Ind., a beautiful and highly educated woman, who has always had her heart in the work of her husband. For a wedding tour they sailed for Europe and while absent Mr. Hitt was appointed secretary of the legation at Paris, in which position he was continued under President Hayes. While in France, two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hitt—Robert Reynolds and William Floyd. Returning to this country in 1880, and while at his home in Mount Morris, Mr. Hitt received an urgent telegram from Secretary of State James G. Blaine to come to Washington. Upon arrival there he was offered the position of Assistant Secretary of State, which he accepted and filled with credit. He proved a keen-witted and clear-sighted diplomatist and an excellent man for the place. The duty which he entered upon included the superintendence of over 500 consular officers, scrutinizing their work and giving them directions and aiding the Secretary in passing upon the questions that arose in intercourse with foreign nations. He resigned the position after the death of President Garfield. Some time after this, two days before the Republican convention to nominate a candidate to represent the Sixth Illinois District in Congress. Hon. R. M. A. Hawk, the proposed candidate, died and upset all plans. A committee asked Mr. Hitt if



*Partial View of the Premises and Residence of Congressman R. R. Hitt.*

it might present his name and upon his consent nominated and elected him to the position. He has since been successfully elected each term until the present time, and it never enters the public mind to do otherwise than send him to the national capital to represent our interests in the making of laws for this great nation. His congressional work has been chiefly done in the committee on foreign affairs, of which he is chairman. He is a positive and systematic protectionist and an advocate of sound money. In

approached upon the subject.

HOLSINGER, J. P. clerk; born in Bedford county, Pa., October 17, 1864; married November 17, 1887, to Minnie O. Biddle; two children.

HOLSINGER, LEVI, laborer; born in Blair county, Pa., October 20, 1840; married in 1865 to Harriet Cheesman; five children; married second time November 2, 1875, to Mary Grosnickle; three children.

HOUSEHOLDER, PETER, painter; born August 10, 1835, at Williamsport, Md.

*Premises of Capt. Peter Householder.*

1893 Mr. Hitt underwent a very severe spell of sickness, from which his friends despaired of his recovery. It took two years to gain his usual good health. Mr. Hitt enjoys the friendship of the greatest men in the country, including President McKinley. He and his good wife spend a portion of each summer at their pleasant Mount Morris home, and near the close of the recent campaign Mr. Hitt favored the people with a sound discussion of the issues of the day. He is probably the best informed man alive on the early history of Mount Morris and talks freely when

He gained his education in the country school. He came to Illinois in 1838, and spent his life on the farm until September 7, 1861, when he enlisted in the army from Mount Morris and was mustered into the United States service at Camp Butler as sergeant of Company H, 34th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain J. M. Miller and Colonel E. N. Kirk, to serve three years or during the war. The regiment was assigned to the 2d Brigade, 2d Division, 14th Corps, Army of the Cumberland, and participated in engagements at Shiloh, Tenn., April 6 and 7, 1862; Corinth, April 30;

La Vergne, November 27; Knob Gap, December 26; Stone River, December 31; Liberty Gap, June 25, 1863; Chickamauga, Ga., September 19 and 20; Resaca, May 13 to 16, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 9; Atlanta, July 28 to September 2; Jonesboro, August 31; Sherman's march to the sea, November 15 to December 10; Bentonville, March 19 to 21, 1865. Mr. Householder was promoted to First Lieutenant December 27, 1862, and to Captain September 12, 1863. He was wounded in left side and spine at Stone River December 31, 1862, and through both thighs by canister shot at Resaca May 14, 1864. He resigned on account of disability November 6, 1864. Mr. Householder was married November 28, 1869, to Annie A. Sheets. Six children have been born—Claude, William, Roy, Earl, Melvin and Blanche.

HOUSEHOLDER, CLAUDE, laborer; born June 4, 1871; unmarried.

HOUSEHOLDER, WILLIAM, professional baseball player; born in Mount Morris township July 8, 1873; unmarried.

HOUSEHOLDER, ROY, photographer; was born July 4, 1876, the one hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. His parents are Peter and Anna Householder. He completed the prescribed course of study in the Mount Morris public school in 1891 and several years later became apprentice to J. M. Hosking, photographer. He continued in Mr. Hoskin's employ until the sudden death of that gentleman. Mr. Householder conducted the business for two months until J. M. Rinedollar purchased the gallery, when he spent some time as a painter in the employ of the Burlington Railroad and did work in many places along that railroad. The painting trade he had previously learned of his father. March 1, 1899, Mr. Householder purchased the photograph gallery of J. M. Rinedollar and entered into business for himself. He has since worked diligently at the art and does an excellent class of work. He is now serving his first term as village treasurer. He is unmarried.

HOUSEHOLDER, EARL, drug clerk. He was born April 4, 1878, in Mount Morris, being the son of Peter and Anna Householder. He obtained his education in the Mount Morris public school, and on Nov. 25, 1896, entered the employ of A. W. Brayton as clerk in his drug store. He is unmarried.

HOLSINGER, CHARLES R., student and school teacher. He is the son of Levi and Mary Holsinger, and was born in Jewel county, Kan., December 9, 1879. He came with his parents to Ogle county, Ill., in 1880, and gained his early education in the district and public schools of Mount Morris township. Later he attended Mount Morris College several years. He has taught four terms of school and worked some at the printer's trade.

HOLSINGER, DAVID S., stonemason; born in Blair county, Pa., August 20, 1853; married in 1875 to Sarah E. Mondabaugh, deceased; married again in 1885 to Annie E. Wolfe, who is also dead; married a third time, November 28, 1894, to Belle Lizer.

HOLSINGER, W. S., laborer; born in Pennsylvania August 10, 1855; married in 1891 to Florence O. Knodle; one child.

HOLLAND, JOHN, laborer; born February 4, 1852, in Franklin county, Pa.; married: three children.

HOSSACK, GEORGE, retired farmer; was born in Canada, November 3, 1833; unmarried.

HORST, GEORGE, SR., farmer; born in Germany, April, 1823; married.

HORST, GEORGE, JR., farmer; born in Germany, August 18, 1855; married in 1880 to Sarah Rebman; six children.

HORST, KONRAD, farmer; born in Germany, March 29, 1850; married in 1876 to Louisa Tohefer; four children.

HOPPE, JOSEPH, farm hand.

HOWLAND, GEORGE P., unmarried.

HOLLINGER, SAMUEL, farmer; born in Dark county, Ohio, April 12, 1876; married December 27, 1899, to Ellen Metzger.

HUFF, O. E., farmer; born in Leaf River township, December 23, 1871; married in 1892 to Elsie Marks; one child.

HERBERT, FRED, farm hand; born in Washington county, Md.; unmarried.

IRVIN, A. C., railroad mail clerk; born at Chicago, Ill., March 28, 1858; married in 1883 to Julia S. Weller; one son.

JACKSON, D. A., retired; born July 29, 1826, at Fairfield, N. Y.; married September 19, 1848; three children.

JACKSON, WILLIAM H., butter manufacturer; born in Salisbury, N. Y., Feb-

ruary 27, 1856; married March 12, 1878, to Carrie H. Hyde; three children.

JANSSEN, EILDERT, farmer; born in Germany, July 1, 1840; married July 7, 1868, to Lena Brinkema; four children.

JANSSEN, MEINT, farmer; born in Germany, February 16, 1845; married in 1873 to Hattie Anderson; eight children, two dead.

JANSSEN, DIRK, farmer; born in Germany, September 13, 1878; unmarried.

JACOBS, GEORGE A., teacher; portrait on page 133; biography on page 132.

JIMMERSON, EDWARD, SR., laborer; born in Knox county, Ohio, September 15, 1852; married July 4, 1874, to Mary Gossler; three children.

JIMMERSON, JOHN J., carpenter; born in Mount Morris township, January 17, 1876; married September 1, 1898, to Georgia Watts; one child.

JIMMERSON, EDWARD OTTO, laborer; born in Mount Morris township, May 25, 1879; unmarried.

KABLE, JOHN A., carpet weaver. He was born in Dauphin county, Pa., June 27, 1847, and was the son of Christian and Esther Kable. He obtained his education in the district schools of Dauphin county. He came west with his parents to Carroll county, Ill., in April, 1866. Before coming west Mr. Kable spent a number of years working in a coal mine. While in Carroll county he operated a threshing outfit and farmed several years. Later he learned the carpet-weaving, and located at Mount Morris in the spring of 1882, and has built up an enormous business. He weaves thousands of yards of durable carpet every year for people living twenty miles on every side of Mount Morris. Mr. Kable was united in marriage June 27, 1872, to Elizabeth A. Speicher, daughter of Christian and Anna Speicher of Tanark. Eight children have been born—Minnie M., August 6, 1873; Allie E., March 20, 1875; Lulu E., September 7, 1877; Harry G. and Harvey J., July 15, 1880; William, September 15, 1883; Hazel, May 25, 1891; Ruth, January 14, 1894. All are living except William, who died in infancy.

KANODE, JOHN T., farmer; born August 29, Frederick county, Md.; married in 1876 to Sarah C. Wetzel; one child.

KANODE, HARRY L., carpenter; born March 27, 1866, in Frederick county, Md.; married in 1890 to Emma Glasgow; three children.

KEEFER, M. C., farmer; born in Ogle county, July 28, 1866; married in 1889 to Hannah Skiles; three children.

KEEDY, F. C., engineer; born in Washington county, Md., August 8, 1869; married in 1899 to Altha A. Coffman; one child.

KEEDY, WILLIAM H., liveryman; born in Washington county, Md., June 5, 1867; unmarried.

KENDEL, SAMUEL, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., August 29, 1823; married in 1863 to Abbie A. Hazzard; eight children, one dead.

KENDEL, DANIEL, farmer; born in Forreston township.

KENDEL, TRUMAN W., farmer; born March 28, 1875.

KEPLINGER, W. F., laborer; born July 4, 1846, at Keedysville, Md.; married in 1870 to Fannie M. Hedrick; seven children, six dead.

KINSEY, S. C., carpenter; born July 10, 1844, in Washington county, Md.; married December 5, 1869, to Nancy C. Funk; two children, one dead.

KONIG, CHARLES, farmer; born in Germany March 13, 1877; married in 1896 to Henrietta Fischer; two children.

KONIG, FERDINAND, farmer; born in Germany, May 10, 1827; has two children.

KNODLE, J. A., wood worker; born October 10, 1823, in Washington county, Md.; married in 1848 to Anna C. Little; one child; married second time in 1867 to Hannah Wagner.

KNODLE, F. F., music composer and engraver; born April 29, 1853, in Mount Morris township; married January 3, 1877, to Cora B. Crowell; one child.

KOONTZ, N. T., blacksmith; born in Maryland.

KOONTZ, W. W., farmer; born in Mount Morris, Ill., May 22, 1870; married in 1898 to Sarah A. Domer.

KUMP, DANIEL, laborer; born in Washington county, Md., October 31, 1875; married in 1896 to Rilla Slifer; two children.

LAMPERT, GEORGE, laborer; born in New York City, November 18, 1869; married August 18, 1892, to Licia Bain; three children .

LAMBING, JOHN H., blacksmith; was born November 18, 1876, at Weeping

Water Neb., being the son of George W. and Sarah Lambing. He attended the high school at Weeping Water, and at the age of seventeen commenced to learn the blacksmith trade under his father, and worked at the business three years. He belonged to the Volunteers of America and spent two years at mission work. He came to Mount Morris June 1, 1899, and worked at his trade for A. C. Lookabaugh for ten months, at the end of which time he purchased himself a set of new tools and started up in business for himself. Mr. Lambing was married November 15, 1898, to Lydia Muller of New York City. They have one son, Donald George, born March 17, 1900.

LAWSON, FRED, farmer; born in Ogle county, March 21, 1854; married January 18, 1882, to Eva D. Wood; three children.

LIGHT, J. FRANK, farmer; born August 22, 1875, in Leaf River township; married Mary E. Sprecher in 1898.

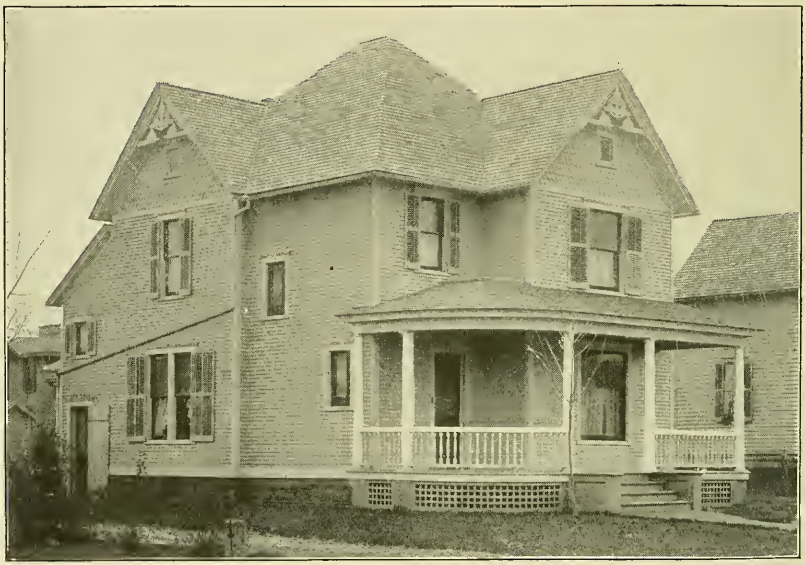
LINK, GEORGE H., farmer; born July 5, 1865, in Lincoln township; married Augusta Bicker in 1888; four children, three living.

LINDSAY, F. J., grain buyer; born June 9, 1869, at Seneca, Ill.; married Margaret Fogle in 1899; operates the south elevator for the Neola Elevator Company.

LEHNER, J. C.; born in Germany, September 8, 1831; married August 20, 1856, to Louisa Krell; one child.

LIPE, L. L., pastor of Lutheran church; biography and portrait on page 188.

LIZER, JEREMIAH, laborer; born January 9, 1846, in Washington county, Md.; married and has eight children, five living.



*Residence of Frank Keedy, Built in 1900.*

LIZER, JOHN, laborer; born July 9, 1840; married in 1865 to Mary Lloyd; ten children, three dead.

LIZER, LUTHER E., drayman; born August 29, 1864, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Laura Speilman in 1888; four children living.

LOHAFER, WILLIAM, SR., farmer; born in Germany, May 10, 1838; has six children.

LOHAFER, HENRY F., farmer; born December 8, 1865, in Mount Morris township; married Mary E. Haney in

1893; two children.

LOHAFER, WILLIAM, JR., farmer; unmarried.

LONG, ERNEST, farmer; married to Olive Felker.

LONG, FRED, liveryman; married in 1900 to Grace Davis.

LONG, ANDREW J., liveryman; born October 15, 1841, in Washington county, Md.; married to Louisa V. Weller in 1867; two children; second marriage, to Susan Miller, in 1887.

LONG, SAMUEL E., farmer; born August 15, 1868, in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

LONGMAN, JOHN, janitor; born November 24, 1838, in Frederick county, Md.; married and has three children; served in Civil War, in the 1st Md. Infantry, and saw much hard fighting.

LONGMAN, HARRY F., laborer; born in Washington county, Md., December 29, 1872; unmarried.

LONGMAN, HERLOCK E., carpenter; born October 28, 1875, in Washington county, Md.; married Elsie V. Lookabaugh in 1899.

LOOKABAUGH, JOHN F., laborer; born January 28, 1853, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Anna Winters in 1890.

LOOKABAUGH, JAMES, laborer; born October 17, 1857, in Franklin county, Pa.; married September 29, 1889, to Mrs. M. Schelling; worked some at carpenter trade.

LOOKABAUGH, ALBERT C., blacksmith; born January 11, 1855, in Franklin county, Pa.; married in 1878 to Mary Delila Davis; four children living.

LOOKABAUGH, JACOB, laborer; born May 16, 1825, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Rachael Buzzard in 1848; eight children.

LOOKABAUGH, JACOB D., magnetic healer; born March 28, 1863, in Armstrong, Pa.; married Effie Morford in 1890; three children.

LUTZ, J. M., retired farmer; born March 29, 1839, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Sarah Garber in 1865; eight children, five living.

MARVIN, EDWARD H., farmer; born October 3, 1872, at Franklin Grove, Ill.; married Mary Donaldson in 1900.

MARSHALL, IRA W., farmer and dairyman. He is the son of Ruben S. and Matilda Marshall, and was born August 24, 1859. He was married December 17, 1897, to Delia Smith, daughter of Stephen and Lydia Smith, of Mount Morris, who had previously attended the Mount Morris public school and college and taught school a number of years. They have two children—Bessie, born March 26, 1881; and Jesse, born July 29, 1882. Mr. Marshall was engaged in farming in Leaf River township for a number of years and during five years conducted a butcher shop in Leaf River, doing the butchering himself at his home and hiring a man in Leaf River to run the shop. He also had a branch in Byron for one year. After selling his Leaf River and Byron shops, he moved to Rockford, and conducted a shop there for one and a half years. In 1895 Mr. Marshall purchased his present farm, north of town, of Daniel Smith, and in 1897 established the milk route in Mount Morris, which now has grown to be a large and prosperous business. Mr. Marshall was elected road commissioner for a term of three years in 1890, to succeed his father, R. S. Marshall, who had filled the office for many years. He is also a member of the Board of Education of the Mount Morris public school. Mr. Marshall is now having a fine new residence erected.

MARSHALL, REUBEN S., farmer. He is one of the pioneers of Mount Morris township, as is mentioned on page 19; his portrait is also found on that page. Mr. Marshall was born October 4, 1827, in Clinton county, New York, and was the son of Caleb and Louisa Marshall. His birthplace was on a farm near Plattsburg; his father having participated in the memorable battle of Plattsburg, which occurred near the old homestead. In November, 1834, his father's family started for the wild frontier in Illinois. At Cleveland, Ohio, hearing such alarming reports of the deeds of hostile Indians in Illinois they stopped until hostilities were over. In February, 1837, they left Cleveland by team for Oregon, Ogle county, and reached their destination after about four weeks of driving. They were compelled to remain in Oregon about three weeks before being able to cross Rock river, on account of unsafe ice. They then proceeded to their claim, northeast of the present site of Mount Morris, and erected a very rude log cabin, 12x14 feet, into which the family moved.

As soon as the frost was out of the ground five acres of ground was broken and their first crop in Illinois planted. It consisted of 2 acres of wheat, 1 acre of oats, 1½ acres of sod corn and ½ acre of potatoes. The subject of this sketch was but ten years of age when his father's family thus established themselves in Mount Morris township. He attended school until seventeen years of age, during the winter term of school, which at the most was only twenty-one days in length. On leaving school he settled down to a life of hard work, and during the sixty years and more since that time has done far above the average in the work of developing this great State. Mr. Marshall always manifested an interest in politics, and has ably served his township in a number of offices. He has served as school director for thirty years, road commissioner thirty-six years, two terms as a member of the Board of Supervisors. While representing his township as supervisor he did invaluable service as one of the building committee for the erection of our present courthouse in Oregon. Mr. Marshall was married January 13, 1852, to Matilda Steffa, who died February 24, 1875. They became the parents of twelve children, ten of whom are living. Those living are Wm. C., born March 6, 1853; Emma May, born May 25, 1855; Ira W., born August 24, 1857; Albertus S., born July 27, 1861; Frank E., born June 12, 1863; Ida C., born February 3, 1866; John C., born September 10, 1867; Grace A., born April 24, 1869; Viola, born December 11, 1870; Oliver E., born March 21, 1873. One son and one daughter died in infancy.

MARSHALL, FRANK E., farmer; born in Mount Morris township; married Annie Smith in 1894; one child.

MARSHALL, WM. C., retired farmer; born in Mount Morris township; married Mary Rowe in 1876; two children.

MARSHALL, JOHN C., farmer; born in Mount Morris township; married Grace Koontz; two children.

MAYER, J. W., farmer; born February 1, 1859, in Stephenson county, Ill.; married Annie V. Wakenight in 1887; four children.

MERRYMAN, JOHN, carpenter; born in Blair county, Pa., November 7, 1842; married Clara M. Sheets in 1870; six children, five living.

MALONEY, M. F.; born in Ireland in 1860; married Ida Stover in 1886; five children.

METZGER, CHARLES, farmer; born in Germany; has two sons.

METZGER, ADAM, farmer; married.

METZGER, ALVIN, farmer; married.

MEYER, HENRY, farmer; born February 27, 1876, in Maryland township; unmarried.

MEYER, WILLIAM, farmer; born in Germany, November 5, 1822; married Winnie Bremmer in 1866; six children.

MCCOY, RIGDON, shoemaker; born February 3, 1843, at Funkstown, Md.; married Helen E. Harper in 1867; six children.

MCCOY, JACKSON, bricklayer and stone mason; born March 27, 1872, at Funkstown, Md.; married in 1899 to Mabel Routzhan.

MCCOY, RICHARD, laborer; born in Mount Morris.

MCCOY, CLAUDE, stone mason; born in Mount Morris, September 12, 1877; unmarried.

MCCOY, JAMES B., woodworker; born in Mount Morris, August 17, 1845; married Mary A. Smith in 1873; two sons, one dead.

MCCOY, ROBERT, laborer; youngest son of James B. and Mary McCoy; unmarried.

MCCOY, A. S., farmer; born January 1, 1849, in Mount Morris township; married first to Lura A. Neff; married second time in 1889 to Hattie McQuoid.

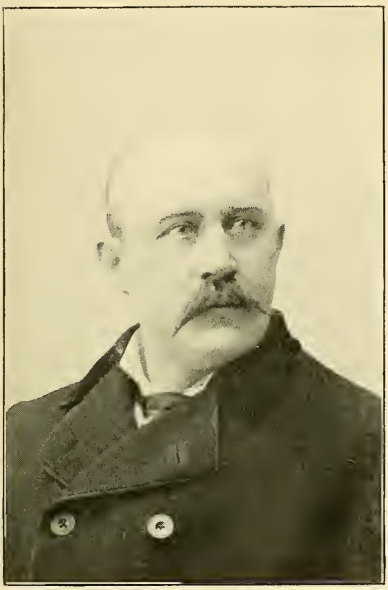
MCCOY, JOHN E., farmer and ex-postmaster; born in Mount Morris township, January 22, 1842; married in 1865 to M. Elle[illegible]ngl[illegible]fi[illegible]ildren.

MCCOY, CHARLES B., tinner; son of John E. McCoy; unmarried.

MCCOSH, DR. GEORGE B., physician and surgeon; born March 4, 1857, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Wanda Blair; five children living.

MCCOSH, DAVID S., music composer and engraver and band leader. He is the son of Dr. John and Elizabeth McCosh, and was born December 15, 1847, in Franklin county, Pa. He attended the public school of his district, and later a select school in Quincy. At the age of seventeen he came west with his parents and settled in Mount Morris. The first year he spent as a farmer hand, work-

ing for Wm. Rine, and then attended Rock River Seminary a number of years, during which time he became a member of the village band and began his musical career. After quitting the seminary he went to Dixon, and besides clerking in a bookstore played in the Dixon band. He soon became leader of the band and remained there seven years. He then went to Freeport and organized a helicon band which afterward consolidated with the Germania Band as the Grand Union



*Prof. D. S. McCosh.*

Band. Here at Freeport, in 1876, he first began to publish music, although he had done some composing in Dixon. After a term of three years in Freeport Professor McCosh then went to the city of Chicago and continued to publish music and instruct bands and orchestras on a larger scale. His first band there was the Sixth Battalion Band, now the famous Second Regiment Band. He next became leader of Lyon & Healy's famous band and with it traveled extensively with the St. Bernard Commandery of the Masonic fraternity. His last trip with them was to San Francisco. Other bands under his control later were the West Side Military Band and Bowman's Military Band, the latter of forty pieces. At one time he furnished music at five of the biggest skating rinks in Chicago, having in his employ forty-five musicians. One of these rinks was what was known as the "Palace Rink," occupying ground where the Auditorium now stands. Professor McCosh's musical compositions have been exceedingly numerous and have been very successful on the market. It is estimated that he has composed not less than 4,000 separate pieces, of which probably the most successful was the song "Hear Dem Bells," which was sung all over the United States. Among other musical compositions are nine sets of orchestra books, two sets of band books, and many single pieces, for C. T. Root & Son; five sets of orchestra books and one band book for Henry Detmer; two sets of orchestra books for John Church Company; one set for Lyon & Healy, and many other single compositions. In late years Mr. McCosh returned to Mount Morris, and is engaged in the publishing business with Dr. G. B. McCosh and Wm. H. Smith. He is kept busy composing and engraving music and leading bands. The work of engraving he has been doing for about eighteen years past. Mr. McCosh was married September 19, 1879, to Lottie Huntington, of New York city. They have two sons, viz.: Dudley, born December 17, 1880, and Leighton, born October 1, 1882. Both have inherited their father's exceptional musical talent. Dudley has already become an efficient band leader, and both are good cornetists.

McCready, W. E., farmer. He is the son of John and Eliza McCready, and was born February 27, 1845, in Clinton county, N. Y. He came with his parents to Illinois in 1850, settling in Mount Morris township. His boyhood days were spent in the public school of his district, and at the early age of seventeen enlisted in the army. He joined the 14th Illinois Cavalry in January, 1863, and served during the remainder of the war, participating in various engagements, from Knoxville to Atlanta. Was with the command of General Gerard in the famous raid after Morgan, capturing

him at Bluffington Island, in June, 1864. After the war he married and went to farming. During the first year he farmed one of R. S. Marshall's farms in Mount Morris township; the second year, went to Lincoln township, on what was then known as the John Nye farm, and remained there twenty-five years. He served thirteen years as road commissioner in Lincoln township. Moving to Mount Morris township in 1894, he continued farming, occupying the Seibert farm east of Mount Morris. He is now serving the township as road commissioner, having been elected in 1899. Mr. McCready was married March 2, 1868, to Sarah Nye, who died in the early eighties. Three children were born to them, viz.: John C., born December 21, 1869; Vernie E., October 18, 1871; and Chas. E., born October 12, 1876. Mr. McCready was again married in 1885 to Elizabeth Marsh. They have one son, Frederick H., born February 13, 1886.

McCready, John, eldest son of W. E. McCready; unmarried.

McCready, Chas. W., laborer; second son of W. E. McCready; unmarried.

McCready, Charles; born in Clinton county, New York; unmarried.

McClure, Robert D., farmer; born July 27, 1845, at Pittsburg, Pa.; married Elizabeth Allen, January 1, 1876; four children.

McClure, Ray, law student; born in Freedom township, Carroll county; unmarried.

McNett, John, teamster; born in Pine Creek township, September 6, 1844; married Margaret A. Hause in 1867; six children living.

McNett, Samuel, laborer; born December 21, 1869, in Mount Morris; unmarried.

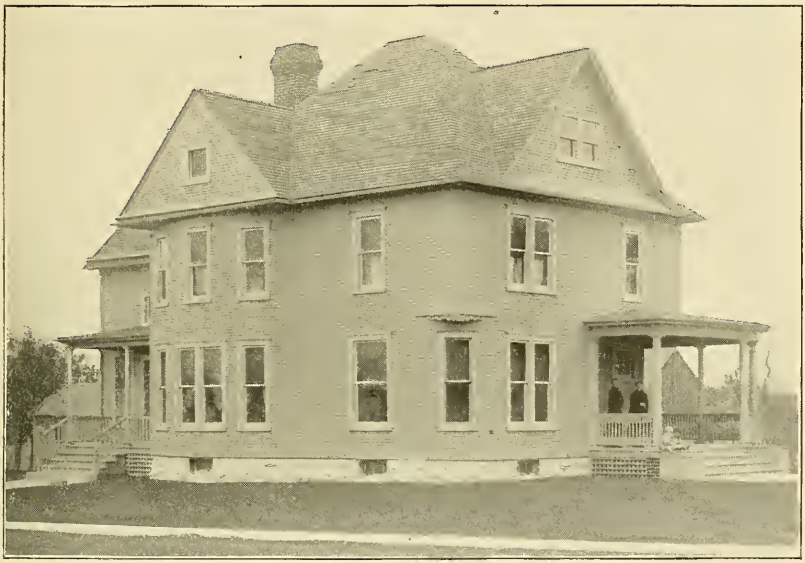
McNett, Charles, laborer; born December 16, 1872, in Mount Morris; unmarried.

McNett, Walter, laundryman; born December 26, 1877, in Mount Morris; unmarried.

McIlvanie, Charles H., farm hand; born in Mount Morris township, August 29, 1874; unmarried.

Miller, Elder D. L., editor, author, and minister of the Dunkard church, is now living a semi-retired life in his pleasant new home in Mount Morris. Honored and respected by all, there is no man in Mount Morris who occupies a more exalted position in the estimation of the good people of the town. One of the most prominent men in all the Brethren church, he is known not only in Ogle county but has thousands of warm friends over the entire United States. Mr. Miller is a self-made man in every sense of the term. His father having a very conservative idea of the necessity of education, gave him only the knowledge which it was possible for him to obtain in the little country schoolhouse of his district, and at the age of twelve put him out with a neighboring farmer to work. For a number of years he labored as a farm hand and assisted in his father's mill, but finally contracted the Western fever, and, leaving his father's farm, which was partly in Washington county, Md., and the remainder in Franklin county, Pa., came out to Illinois. He first worked for his uncle, John Long, on his farm northwest of Mount Morris. After a few years in Illinois he returned to Maryland, and again assisted for a time in his father's mill. He soon decided to come west again, however, and this time stopped at Polo, engaging as a clerk. One of his first business ventures in Polo was in the dry goods business, in partnership with Samuel Shoop. He next bought grain in partnership with George Ambrose, now of Pine Creek, and later opened up a grocery store in partnership with the same gentleman. Mr. Ambrose sold out his share in the business after the first year and Mr. Miller conducted it alone for about five years with much success financially. It was while engaged in this business that Mount Morris College was purchased by the Brethren. In casting about for a competent man to become business manager of the college Mr. Miller's sterling business qualifications, as attested by his exceptional success in Polo, were brought to notice and he was solicited to fill the position. With some reluctance he disposed of his business in Polo and in 1879 moved to Mount Morris, assuming his duties as business manager with the first opening of the school under the auspices of the Brethren in the fall of that year. For five years he was actively engaged in the work of managing the business of the school, a part of which

time, after the departure of J. M. Stein (see page 95), also doing the work of president, although he would never allow that title to be applied to him. Soon after becoming business manager he became a stockholder, and it was also during these years that the enterprise known as the *Brethren at Work* was purchased by Joseph Amick and himself. Mr. M. M. Eshleman, former owner of the plant and business, had failed, but the new owners soon built up an exceedingly prosperous business, concerning which more is found on page 143 of this volume. Mr. Miller, along with his duties in the college, acted as office editor of the *Brethren at Work*, later changed to the *Gospel Messenger*, and together with other work was an exceedingly busy man. In 1883 Mr. Miller decided to go abroad, and in August of that year, having completed all the preparations for the year 1883-'84 of the college, which his office of business manager demanded, embarked at New York in company with his wife on his first trip across the Atlantic. Nine months were spent journeying in Germany, Denmark and other parts of Europe, and in the Holy Lands. During these nine months Mr. Miller wrote a famous series of communications to the *Gospel Messenger*, which were read with a great deal of interest all over the Brotherhood and served to greatly increase the *Messenger* subscription list. After his return to America letters came from many quarters urging him to write a book concerning his trip, embodying the substance of his letters. This was done and during its preparation agents went to work unsolicited and the entire edition was disposed of before it was off the press. Other editions were later printed and easily sold. After his return from this first trip abroad Mr. Miller remained at home nine years and did double duty in the college and the publishing house, his principal work being in the latter, however. In 1892 Mr. and Mrs. Miller again went abroad, and after their return Mr. Miller's second book, "Wanderings in the Bible Lands," made its appearance. It was even more successful than the first, and a number of large editions were sold.



*Fine New Residence of Eld. D. L. Miller, Built in 1900.*

About this time he also prepared the manuscript for a book entitled "Seven Churches of Asia," and made a present of it to the mission board, the proceeds of its sale to be used in mission work. It was also very successful on the market. Mr. Miller's third trip abroad was made in company with Joseph Lehman, his wife remaining at home. On this trip they spent considerable time in Egypt, traveling 1,000 miles up the Nile. After their return from this trip Mr. Miller did not remain at home long and again in May, 1895, in company with his wife embarked at New York on their most novel experience—a trip around the world. They returned safely by way of San Francisco after an absence of over a year. Two years after their return Mr. Miller's last and most successful book, "Girdling the Globe," made its apearance, dedicated to the cause of missions. In 1898 Mr. Miller made his fifth and last tour abroad, accompanied again by his wife. They spent six weeks in Jerusalem, five weeks in Smyrna and three months in India. During his many travels Mr. Miller gathered numerous photographs, from which slides have been made. With a powerful stereopticon and these slides he has illustrated hundreds of his interesting lectures concerning his travels. He is always greeted with enormous crowds. At present Mr. Miller is living practically retired, although he still does considerable work as one of the editors of the *Gospel Messenger* and chairman of the General Missionary and Tract Committee. He is very deeply interested in the cause of missions, both at home and, particularly, abroad, and contributes liberally of his means for the promotion of the work. Stock in both Mount Morris College and the Brethren Publishing House has been donated to the church. For many years Mr. Miller has been a minister of the Brethren church and is a very able talker, one of the foremost in ability in the pulpit to be found in the Brotherhood. As a result of his natural talent and by much reading and extensive travel Mr. Miller has come to be, with the exception of Mr. Hitt, probably the best informed man in Mount Morris, or even in Ogle county. It has been said of him that he is a veritable "walking encyclopedia." Mr. Miller is now in his fifty-ninth year, and continues in the best of health and vigor. Mr. Miller was married in 1867 to Lizzie Talley of Philadelphia. She was born, and lived until the time of her marriage, in that city. She accompanied Mr. Miller on all of his trips to Europe except the third. She is the author of one book entitled, "Letters to the Young from the Old World," written at the solicitation of friends, from letters published in the *Young Disciple*. Three editions of 1,000 each were sold, the proceeds going for charitable purposes.

MILLER, WM. H., undertaker and furniture dealer; born in Washington county, Md., July 23, 1850; married in 1878 to Mary Ellen Wallace; three children.

MILLER, MICHAEL E., retired farmer; born in Mount Morris township, in 1841; married to Elizabeth Welty; twelve children.

MILLER, JOHN H., carpenter and farmer; born November 27, 1864; married Mary E. Smith in 1890; three children.

MILLER, JOHN H., employed by Deering Harvester Company; born December 24, 1865, in Mount Morris township; married Myrtle Rine in 1890; two children.

MILLER, JOHN H., farmer; born in Franklin county, Pa., June 8, 1864; married in 1887 to Fannie Roadenizer; two children.

MILLER, THOMAS E., school teacher; born in Mount Morris, September 1, 1863; unmarried.

MILLER, UPTON, cabinet maker; born March 22, 1828, in Washington county, Md.; married in 1849 to Maria Lou Davis; five children, three living; second marriage in 1887 to Catherine (Koontz) Newcomer.

MILLER, OLIVER L., horse dealer; born in Mount Morris township, September 15, 1872; married in 1894 to Elva Stevens; four children.

MILLER, HARRY G., farmer; born December 12, 1869, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Nettie Deihof in 1891; four children.

MILLER, JACOB G., school teacher; born May 16, 1847, in Pine Creek township, Ogle county; married to Annie Swingley; one son.

MILLER, LEWIS D., superintendent of

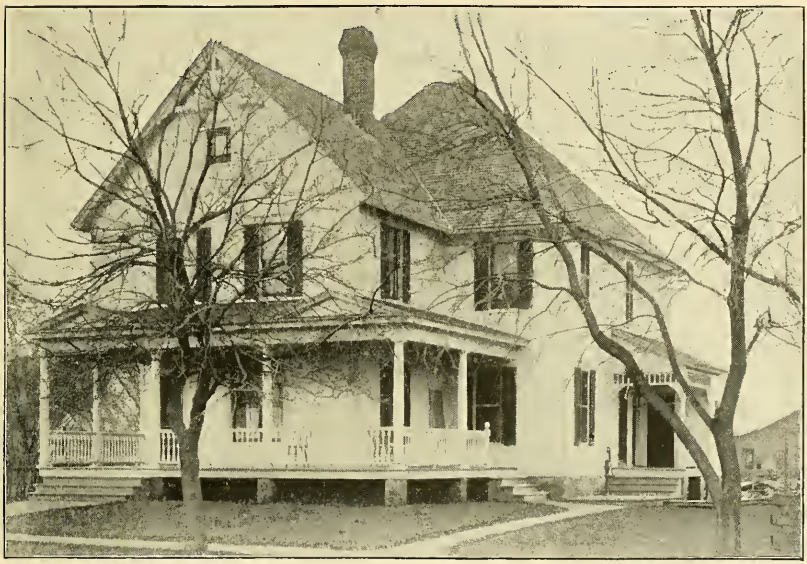
*Country Residence of Mrs. H. J. Farwell, and Son, Supervisor George V. Farwell.*

Old Folks' Home; born in Mount Morris township January 18, 1852; married in 1873 to Mary A. Diehl; married second time in 1878 to Susan E. Diehl.

MILLER, GEORGE M., farmer; born May 15, 1874, in Mount Morris township; married Hattie Lewis in 1900.

MILLER, JACOB G., school teacher; born May 16, 1847, in Pine Creek township; married; one son.

MILLER, JOHN D., harness maker and dealer in horse millinery. He was born October 26, 1858, in Mount Morris, being



*New Residence of Wm. H. Miller, built in 1900.*

the son of Upton and Louisa Miller. He completed his school education in 1877 and worked at farm work several years. In 1881 he started to learn telegraphy, and after an apprenticeship of one year was engaged by the Burlington Railroad, serving as station agent and telegraph operator at a number of places on the Burlington system for a number of years. He was engaged principally at Mount Morris and Chana. October 5, 1885, he bought out Wm. Cushing's harness shop, and during the fifteen years since that time has been actively engaged in that business, with a large and profitable trade. March 1, 1885, he was married to Carrie E. Stone of Polo. They have three sons—Dale E., born July 25, 1889; Harvey L., born April 7, 1894; and Wilbur E., born March 10, 1896; three sons have died.

MIDDOUR, SAMUEL, farmer; born January 31, 1831, at Waynesboro, Pa.; married Hattie A. Little in 1866; three children.

MIDDOUR, E. W., farmer; born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

MIDDLEKAUFF, AUSTIN, farmer; born in Mount Morris township, March 22, 1863; married Mary C. Moats in 1887; three children.

MIDDLEKAUFF, FRED A., grocery clerk; born November 15, 1859, in Washington county, Md.; unmarried.

MISHLER, CALVIN H., carpenter; born August 21, 1857, in Stephenson county, Ill.; married Louisa A. Miller in 1883; four children living.

MILES, CHARLES C., fence builder; born in Washington county, Md., December 6, 1841; married January 1,

1884; one daughter.

Moats, Henry T., farmer; born July 31, 1839, in Washington county, Md.; married Ann E. Speicher in 1864; three children.

Moats, Dr. Joseph B., dentist. He is the son of John W. and Rebecca Moats and was born in Mount Morris township, October 2, 1863. In 1870 he moved with his parents from the township to near Des Moines, Ia., and there gained his early education in the country schools. He soon returned to Mount Morris, however, and farmed the home place three years. He then studied medicine eighteen months under Dr. G. B. McCosh and finally entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, taking his junior course in that institution. His senior course he took in the dental department of the Iowa State University, graduating with the class of 1891. He began the practice of dentistry here immediately and has been at work continuously since that time. Mr. Moats was first married to Grace Swingley, daughter of Benjamin and Catherine Swingley, who died June 3, 1897. Two sons were born to them, Ollie and Fred, who are now living with their grandparents in Iowa. Mr. Moats was again married in September, 1899, to Isadore Rinehart.

Mongan, James, farm hand; born in Washington county, Maryland, April 8, 1869; married Ida Bopp in 1892; one child.

Mongan, Wm., farm hand, born in Washington county, Md.; unmarried.

Mumma, Samuel P., stock buyer; born October 4, 1844, in Pine Creek township; married Louisa Swingley in 1870; four children.

*Property of Lewis Miller, Occupied by George Deppen.*

Mumma, Willis S., contractor and builder; is the eldest son of Samuel and Louisa Mumma, of Mount Morris. He was born in Pine Creek township December 2, 1870, and besides attending the Mount Morris public school spent two years of diligent work in Mount Morris College. During the building of College Hall in 1889 he entered the employ of N. E. Buser to learn the carpenter's trade, and in a surpris-

ingly short time became an expert in the business. Mr. Buser engaged his services the year round at good wages and soon intrusted the entire work of building houses to him, from cellar to roof. In 1898 he formed a partnership with Mr. Buser and with him continued the contracting business. He is a rapid and efficient workman, a most successful superintendent of construction and an accurate calculator. For particulars concerning his work see Chapter XVI. Mr. Mumma was married March 21, 1896, to Anna L. Rice, daughter of Andrew and Barbara Rice.

MUMMA, ED S., born September 24, 1876, in Mount Morris; unmarried.

MUMMA, JAMES, butcher; born in Ogle county April 15, 1841; married to Sophia Etnyre; six children, three dead.

MULLER, FRANK, farmer; born May 30, 1839, in France; married Anna Klock in 1864; seven children.

MULLER, JOHN F., farmer; born in Mount Morris township January 2, 1871; unmarried.

MULLER, JOS. C., farmer; married.

MULLER, HERO J., farmer; born in Germany; married; has several children.

MYERS, JOHN A., laborer; born in Maryland township August 7, 1843; married Barbara A. Strock in 1870; nine children, seven living.

MYERS, JOHN H., farmer; born in January, 1835, in Washington county, Md.; married in 1835; four children.

MYERS, GEORGE M., traveling salesman; born in Mount Morris December 26, 1866; married Ella Lohafer, who died in 1899; four children. Mr. Meyers is engaged by the Goar-Scott Threshing Machine Company.

*Residence of Contractor W. S. Mumma.*

MYER, WM. F., farmer; born in Germany December 15, 1864; married Amelia Bicker in 1889; four children.

MYERS, JOSEPH, laborer; son of John A. Myers; unmarried.

NALLEY, WILLIAM, laborer; born December 10, 1835, in Washington county, Md.; married in 1862; one son.

NALLEY, FRANK, son of Solomon Nal-

ley, deceased; born August 6, 1879, in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

NAZARENE, FRED W., pastor of the M. E. church; portrait and biography on page 181.

NEWCOMER, THOMAS E., student at Ann Arbor; son of Mrs. Maggie Newcomer.

NEWCOMER, CHARLES, retired banker; born in Maryland August 22, 1825; married in 1853 to Rosalie D. Blanchard; three sons; married again to Miss Maria Hitt, sister of Hon. R. R. Hitt; was paymaster in the war of the rebellion.

*Residence of Major Charles Newcomer.*

NEWCOMER, D. H., farmer; born February 4, 1859, in Franklin county, Pa.; married Cora E. Long in 1884; four children.

NEWCOMER, EMANUEL, medicine vender; born March 11, 1829, at Williamsport, Md.; married Isabella Knock in 1853; four children; is an old resident of the village.

NEWCOMER, ARTHUR M., plasterer and retired groceryman; was born April 3, 1848, in Mount Morris; is the son of Andrew and Eliza Newcomer, old settlers in Mount Morris. Besides attending the public school Mr. Newcomer spent one year in Rock River Seminary. May 6, 1875, he was married to Laura Shank, daughter of George and Susan Shank, of Pine Creek. They have one son, Howard, born September 18, 1876, and a daughter, Edna, born July 30, 1880. Mr. Newcomer followed the plastering trade for fifteen years, until 1885, when he went into the grocery business in partnership with his brother, Wm., and continued in the partnership with, however, several changes of firm name, until October, 1898, when he sold to and was succeeded by his son, H. G. Newcomer. Mr. Newcomer has held an exceptionally large number of public offices, having been census enumerator in 1880 and 1900, and served as collector for two years, village treasurer three years, village clerk one year, school treasurer two years, member of village board two years, justice of the peace three years, and is now serving his sixth year as clerk of the board of education. It is a singular fact that Mr. Newcomer has spent his entire life residing and doing business on one single block in Mount

Morris. He was born on one corner, lived his married life on another corner and had his store close to a third corner on the same block.

NEWCOMER, HOWARD G., grocer. He is the only son of Arthur M. and Laura Newcomer, of Mount Morris, having been born in the village September 18, 1876. He entered public school at the usual age and completed the specified course of study. He also attended Mount Morris College several years, taking work in the commercial department. Much of his time was spent clerking in the grocery store of A. M. & W. A. Newcomer until 1899, when he purchased the interest of the former, his father, and has since been engaged in that business, associated with his uncle, Wm. A. Newcomer, under the firm name of Newcomer Company. Mr. Newcomer is an obliging clerk and a thorough business man.

NEWCOMER, WILLIAM A., groceryman, is the son of Andrew and Eliza Newcomer, and was born in Mount Morris March 29, 1850. He went to school in the old Miller schoolhouse and afterward attended Rock River Seminary during 1869 and 1870. He clerked in his father's store in Mount Morris for several years and in 1871 enlisted in the United States army, joining Company H, Ninth United States Infantry. He served in this capacity five years, being discharged in 1876. He then went into the grocery business with his father and has been engaged in that vocation to the present time. An account of his business changes appears on page 37. Mr. Newcomer was united in marriage to Lottie Rohrer, daughter of Martin F. Rohrer.

*Residence of A. M. Newcomer.*

NEWCOMER, H. E., jeweler and stationer; born in Mount Morris March 25, 1870. See Chapter XV for business writeup.

NEFF, ADDISON W., blacksmith; born March 14, 1847, in Mount Morris; married October 9, 1873, to Emily A. Black.

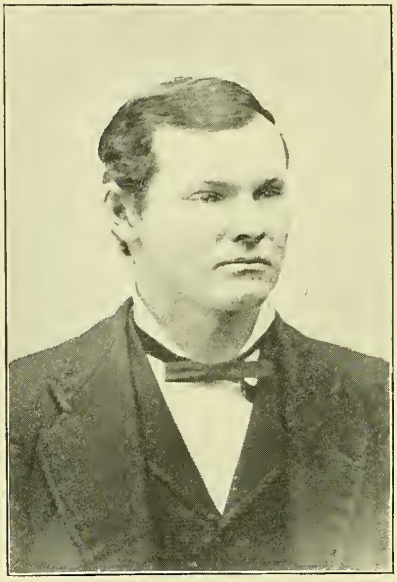
NICHOL, DAVID W., farmer; born in Cumberland county, Pa., November 10, 1870; married in 1899 to Sarah Steffa; one child.

NYE, ULYSSES C., postoffice clerk; born in Mount Morris April 12, 1864.

NIMAN, C. U., liveryman; born in Pine Creek township November 16, 1868; married November 14, 1900, to Minnie Mae Kable.

OLSON, A. T., landlord; born in Sweden November 8, 1864; married March 30, 1864, to Dina Gifford; four children.

PATTERSON, ROBERT, farmer; is the son of Adam and Mary (McDonald) Patterson. He is of a family of eight children, three sons and five daughters, of whom one son and one daughter are dead. William C. Patterson, the only



*Robert Patterson.*

living son besides the object of this sketch, was a member of Company D, 92d Illinois Volunteer Mounted Infantry, and was the first man wounded in the regiment, which occurred at the battle of Harrison Landing. Robert, the other son, was born on the farm occupied by the Patterson family, five and one-half miles northwest of Mount Morris, August 31, 1850. He was educated in the district schools and continued to live on the farm after the death of his father in 1868 until the year 1881, when he purchased eighty acres of land of Daniel J. Pinckney, lying one and one-half miles west of Mount Morris, on which place he has continuously resided with his widowed mother for twenty years. Besides his farming, Mr. Patterson makes a specialty of raising thoroughbred chickens.

PALMER, JOHN K., laborer; born April 27, 1885, in Washington county, Md.; married in 1861 to Ellen V. Skinner; seven children, six dead; married the second time to Laura V. Shirey, December 24, 1879; five children.

PALMER, DAVID Z., farmer; born in Leaf River township October 17, 1857; married in 1883 to Harriet Slifer; eight children, one dead.

PAUL, JESSE W., farmer; born March 5, 1875, in Mount Morris township.

PAUL, LEWIS W., farmer; born in Maryland township September 15, 1857; married in 1882 to Grace Brinkman.

PAUL, C. C., farmer; born in Germany November 25, 1848; married in 1873 to Dora Pothast; five children, one dead.

PAUL, EDWARD F., farmer; born December 11, 1873, in Mount Morris township.

PALMGREN, A., buttermaker; born in Sweden; married.

PEACOCK, WM. H., laborer; born in Polo, Ill., September 9, 1862; married in 1882 to Mary A. Thompson; four children.

PIEPER, ANTONE, farmer; born in Germany August 30, 1852; married in 1875 to Caroline Schnulle; ten children.

PIEPER, FRED, farmer; born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

POTTER, NELSON T., retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., October 20, 1829; married in 1862 to Barbara Hiestand; five children.

POTTER, EDWARD E., farmer; born in Mount Morris township April 10, 1867; married in 1893 to Emma Long; two children.

POTTER, IRVING H., farmer; born June 15, 1870, in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

POTTER, ROBERT, laborer; born in Mount Morris township January 8, 1876; unmarried.

POTTER, T. L., music teacher; born in Washington county, Md., April 16, 1840; married in 1866 to Urilla Hies-

tand; six children.

PRICE, D. E., Brethren minister; born in Waynesboro, Franklin county, Pa., September 7, 1832; married November 25, 1853, to Helen E. Roland; six children; married the second time February 26, 1899, to Mary E. Hicks.

PRICE, DR. C. J., physician and surgeon; located in Mount Morris in summer of 1900. See portrait and sketch in Chapter XV.

PRICE, CLINTON E., hardware dealer; was born in Pine Creek township November 27, 1854, being the son of Samuel C. and Sarah Price. He obtained his education in the Polo high school and at Rock River Seminary. He spent three years at carriage trimming in his father's shop, and three years stock raising in eastern Nebraska. He went into the hardware business in 1882, in which he is still engaged. Mr. Price was married December 31, 1885, to Kittie Winders, daughter of John and Elizabeth Winders. One child has been born—Pauline, August 1, 1896.

PRESSEL, D. H., farmer; born in York county, Pa., November 23, 1870.

RANEY, JACOB E., laborer; born in Berkeley county, Va., August 30, 1853; married May 28, 1878, to Martha Gordon; eleven children, one dead.

RANEY, CHARLES, laborer; son of Jacob Raney; unmarried.

REYNOLDS, CHRISTIAN C., clerk; born February 24, 1874, in Jefferson county, Tenn.; unmarried.

REBMAN, JONATHAN, farmer; born in Maryland township June 8, 1854; married in 1881 to Annie L. Timmer; three children, one dead.

REMMER, F. C., railroad station agent; born in Yorkville, Ill., September 18, 1873; married in 1897 to Ada Neff.

REES, J. M., retired Lutheran minister; born in Lewisburg, Union county, Pa., October 6, 1836; married in 1873 to Mary Plumb; seven children.

RITTENHOUSE, ABRAM H., printer; born in Myerstown, Pa., February 13, 1879; married in November, 1900, to Etta Shirk; is editor of the Mount Morris *News*.

RINO, WILLIAM H., farmer; born in Brooklyn, N. Y., August 15, 1857; married in 1888 to Sarah Feary.

RIDENOUR, DANIEL, laborer; born in Washington county, Md., November 6, 1836; married Susan Rowland in 1873; seven children, four dead; served in the 2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Company B.

RIDENOUR, WILLIAM, laborer; son of Daniel Ridenour; unmarried.

RIDENOUR, BENJ., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., May 6, 1839; married in 1857 to Susan Houser; six children.

RIDENOUR, J. M., miller and farmer; born in Cavetown, Md., May 24, 1858; married in 1883 to Margaret C. Burger; four children.

RIDENOUR, LEE, farmer; born in Mount Morris township, October 6, 1877; unmarried.

RICE, JOSEPH L., banker; was born in Maryland township December 23, 1866, being the son of Isaac and Sarah Rice. Besides a common school education, he attended two years at Rock River Seminary and three years at the Northwestern University at Evanston. In company with J. Heistand he visited Europe in 1891 and has also traveled extensively in the United States. January 19, 1893, with his cousin, John H. Rice, he established the Citizens' Bank in Mount Morris and some time later bought out the Bank of Mount Morris. He is an energetic business man. December 23, 1895, he was united in marriage to Emily Newcomer.

RICE, JOHN H., banker; born in Washington county, Md.; son of John Rice, Sr., deceased; unmarried.

RICE, FRED, farmer; born in Maryland township August 5, 1859; unmarried.

RICE, WILLIAM, farmer; born August 4, 1854, in Maryland township; unmarried.

RICE, ELDRIDGE, farmer; born in Maryland township December 7, 1863; unmarried.

RINE, BENJAMIN, carpenter; born in Cumberland county, Pa., January 5, 1845; married in 1865 to Mellisse Fish; four children.

ROHRER, M. T., retired citizen; born in Washington county, Md., June 9, 1827; married in 1853 to Margarett A. Avery; eight children.

ROYER, J. G., president Mount Morris College. See portrait on page 111; biography, page 113.

ROWLAND, AQUILLA, retired; married,

wife dead.

Rodermund, August, farmer; born in Germany April 13, 1851; married in 1881 to Elizabeth Stengel; five children.

Rodermund, William, farmer, son of A. Rodermund; unmarried.

Rohns, Wm., farmer; born in Mount Morris township September 5, 1862; married in 1883 to Lana Wilt; six children.

Row, Hiram H., retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., September 2, 1829; married in 1851 to Catherine Boward; six children.

son of Hiram and Catherine Rowe. He obtained his early education in the public school at Hagerstown, Md., and also attended school two years in Mount Morris township after coming west. He was united in marriage December 2, 1876, to Anna Barnhizer, daughter of John and Elizabeth Barnhizer. Three children have been born—Clyde and Fay, who died in infancy, and Maude, born March 28, 1878. Mr. Rowe came west from Maryland several years after the war closed. He worked at farming until about 1891, when he was employed by

*Residence of Banker J. L. Rice.*

Row, Wesley, teamster; born in Hagerstown, Md., October 29, 1857; married June 15, 1882, to Annie E. Royer; six children.

Row, Wm. H., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., August 28, 1850; married in 1875 to Alice Swingley; five children.

Row, Benjamin S., farmer, born in Mount Morris township October 29, 1879; unmarried.

Rowe, Samuel, engineer at water works. He was born in Washington county, Md., April 26, 1853, being the

the village as marshal and street commissioner, which position he held until 1900, when he was employed as engineer at the pumping station.

Rudy, Theodore T., farmer; born in Pine Creek township January 9, 1852; married in 1878 to Mary A. Ridenour; two children.

Rubsamen, Charles, born in Washington county, Md., August 15, 1844. He was a private in the Civil War, belonging to Company H, 3d Maryland Cavalry. He took part in the battle of Shreveport, La., and served with his

regiment to the close of the war. He followed the blacksmith trade until 1868, when he removed to Mount Morris. He then worked seven years upon a farm until 1873, when he was united in marriage to Susan A. Correll, and the following children born: James Harvey, December 22, 1875; Charles Edward December 31, 1878; Lulu, October 25, 1880; Lewis B., March 3, 1883; Vilas F., May 4, 1885; Ernest A., October 3, 1891. Mr. Rubsamen has served the township seven years as assessor.

RYDER, B. T., traveling salesman; unmarried.

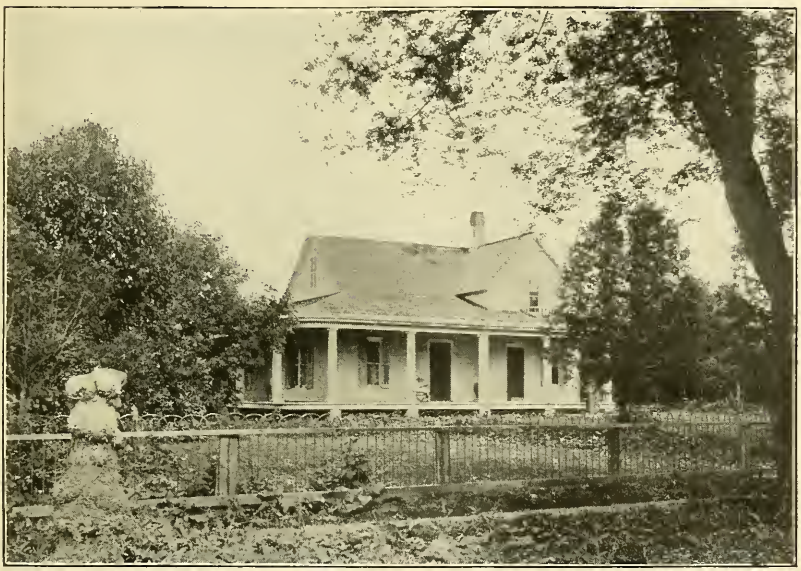
SAMSEL, ROY, laborer; born in Mount Morris township January 18, 1880; unmarried.

SCHWAB, AUGUST, farmer; born in New York City June 1, 1878; unmarried.

SCHAPER, WILLIAM, farmer; born in Germany July 22, 1836; married in 1864 to Charlotte Brockhorn; six children, three dead.

SCOTT, FRANK B., school teacher; son of Mrs. Joseph Smith; unmarried.

SEIBERT, JOHN, born in Mount Morris



*Residence of John V. Seibert.*

born in McHenry county, Ill., August 17, 1862; married in 1886 to Jesse Hyde; one child.

SAMSEL, W. C., retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., December 16, 1836; married in 1867 to Catherine Ridenour; four children.

SAMSEL, DANIEL R., laborer; born in Mount Morris township June 19, 1873; married in 1897 to Helen Stauffer; two children.

SAMSEL, BRUCE, laborer; born in Mount Morris township March 13, 1877; township; married to Flora Wolfe; one child.

SEIBERT, BENJAMIN D., born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

SEIBERT, ALFRED T., attorney-at-law; born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

SIGLER, GEORGE, born in Washington county, Md.; unmarried.

SHARER, HENRY, retired merchant and ex-postmaster. He is a native of Washington county, Md., where he was born March 29, 1817, and was one of the

very earliest settlers in Mount Morris township, having first visited Illinois in 1834. He did not settle permanently, however, until in 1839, when he drove from Maryland in a two-seated carryall. He stopped for a time with his brother-in-law, Captain Swingley, and lived in Brawdie's Grove several years, until in 1849, when he moved upon the farm east of town now owned by J. T. Kanode. He remained there until about 1865, when he moved into the village of Mount Morris and went into the mercantile business in the building now occupied by J. Strock. He occupied this building until in 1874, when he moved to his own building, now occupied by his son, C. H. Sharer. He continued in this business until in 1876, when he retired from active life. Mr. Sharer has been married twice, the first woman of his choice being Cornelia Motter, to whom three children have been born. He was married the second time in 1858 to Sarah (Felker) Hewitt, to whom one child has been born. See portrait of Mr. Sharer on page 25.

SHARER, CHARLES H., groceryman; born in Mount Morris township September 25, 1859; married in 1887 to Susan McCosh; five children. See business writeup and portrait in Chapter XV.

SHOOP, DANIEL, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., in November, 1846; married in 1899 to Amanda Shoop.

SHIRK, LEVI B., retired farmer; was born July 13, 1838, near Mifflin, Juniata county, Pa. He is the youngest child of David and Mary Shirk. In 1857 Mr. Shirk came west and located at West Grove, Ill. Later he purchased 120 acres of land near Shannon. He returned to his native state soon after securing the land and was married to Miss Barbara Shelley, of which union there have been three children—Lizzie, Nelson and Etta. After their marriage, January 21, 1864, Mr. and Mrs. Shirk commenced farming on the land near Shannon, and remained there until December, 1898, when they removed to Mount Morris. Mr. Shirk has successfully followed the occupation of farming his entire life,

*Residence of Chas. H. Sharer.*

and although age has compelled him to retire from active service, he still takes a part in the tilling of the soil, having numerous land and property interests in Mount Morris.

SHIRK, NELSON, son of Levi Shirk; born near Shannon, Ill.; unmarried.

SHAW, RICHARD, retired farmer; born in Montgomery county, Ohio, May 4, 1823; married in 1848 to E. L. Wilson; one child.

SHAW, JOHN E., farmer; born in Hardin county, Iowa, June 28, 1869; married in 1893 to Vernie Davis.

Franklin county, Pa., November 25, 1830; married November 2, 1854, to Louisa Guyer; six children.

SLATER, EDWARD, veteran of Civil War; born in Mansfield, Ohio, November 21, 1833; married July 34, 1872, to Julia Stone.

SLIFER, EMANUEL, retired farmer; born December 21, 1848, in Washington county, Md.; married in August, 1880, to Martha Thomas; two children.

SLIFER, ELMER, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., February 9, 1868; married in 1895 to Annie Hill;

*Residence of Levi Shirk, occupied by W. W. Wheeler.*

SHANK, WILLIAM B., retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., October 20, 1853; married in 1879 to Annie E. Spesard; one child.

SHRINER, S. A., harnessmaker and dealer in horse goods; born in Frederick county, Md., March 26, 1863; married in 1889 to Annie L. Huges; four children.

SHRYOCK, B. K., born January 29, 1826, at Hagerstown, Md.; married March 1, 1855, to Elizabeth Potter; eight children, two dead.

SHOWALTER, LEVI, farmer; born in three children, one dead.

SMITH, H. L., retired liveryman; born February 28, 1831, in Orange county, N. Y.; married in 1855 to Aldoret Brace; one child; married second time in 1867 to Rebecca Holley; one child; married third time to Carrie L. Knodle in 1877; four children, one dead.

SMITH, CHARLES, plasterer and bricklayer; born in Mayfield, N. Y., December 17, 1834; married January 1, 1856, to Sarah Ann Knodle; four children, one dead.

SMITH, WILLIAM K., farmer; born at

Funkstown, Md., September 14, 1863; married in 1890 to Fannie E. Artz; five children.

SMITH, CHARLES E., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., November 5, 1865; married in 1887 to Flora Austin; five children.

SMITH, FRANK, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., April 9, 1871.

SNELL, CHARLES, farm hand; born in Indiana February 1, 1878.

SOLLENBERGER, M. L., retired farmer; born in Franklin county, Pa., January 20, 1853; married in 1876 to Adelia Netsley; two children; married second time in 1887 to Minnie Gish.

SPEILMAN, MELVIN P., retired farmer; born March 24, 1843, at Felghmantown, Md.; married in 1865 to Mary E. Newcomer; nine children.

SPEILMAN, CHARLES E., laborer; born in Lincoln township December 20, 1874; married September 12, 1900, to Lulu Easton.

SPRECHER, JOHN, SR., merchant; born September 22, 1832, in Washington county, Md.; married and has nine children.

SPRECHER, JOHN, JR., clerk; born in Mount Morris township, April 14, 1861; unmarried.

SPRECHER, CHAS. C., partner with brother in restaurant business; born in Mount Morris October 22, 1873; unmarried.

SPRECHER, WENTWORTH, in restaurant business; born in Mount Morris; unmarried.

SPRECHER, PHILIP T., retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., December 10, 1848; married in 1879 to Mary C. Sprecher; two children.

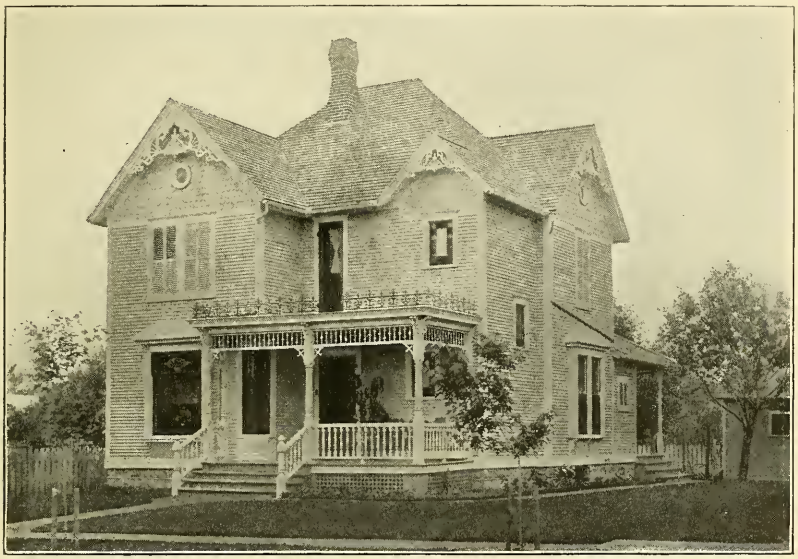
SPRECHER, LEWIS C., farmer; born in Mount Morris township January 20, 1849; married in 1880 to Anna E. Lookabaugh; one child.

SPRECHER, SAMUEL H., born in Maryland; married to Alice Keedy.

SPRECHER, THOMAS I., grocery clerk; was born at Hagerstown, Md., December 9, 1876, being the son of Frank and Annie Sprecher. Besides a common school education he attended Wolfe's Business College in Hagerstown, graduating from a three-years' course with the class of 1894. He then worked three years in the nickeling department of the Craw-

*Residence of Wm. B. Shank.*

ford Bicycle Works. Mr. Sprecher was a member of the Maryland state militia and at the outbreak of war between the United States and Spain he volunteered his services and spent ten and a half months for Uncle Sam in Company B, 1st Maryland Volunteer Infantry. His regiment saw no active service, however, and was mustered out at Augusta, Ga., February 28, 1899. Mr. Sprecher came to Mount Morris in the spring of the same year and has been an efficient clerk in grocery stores owned by A. R. Binkley at Forreston and Mount Morris since that time.



*Residence of Emanuel Slifer.*

SPRECHER, GEORGE, retired farmer: married twice; has six living children.

SPRECHER, IRVIN, son of George Sprecher; born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

SPRECHER, BERT, laborer; son of George Sprecher; born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

STINE, FREDERICK, farmer; born in Pennsylvania April 27, 1821; married in 1844 to Mary Canode; fifteen children, two dead.

STINE, W. L., farmer, is the son of Frederick and Mary Stine. He was born January 25, 1852, in Franklin county, Pa., near the Mason and Dixon line, where at twelve years of age he witnessed the battle of Antietam. He attended school from the farm until he became of age, with the exception of two years spent in mining iron ore, about three hundred feet under ground. He came to Illinois in 1876 and has been engaged in farming since that time. He first cultivated the Newcomer farm in Rockvale township and later operated a farm east of Oregon for two years, but had the misfortune to lose all his household goods in a fire which destroyed the farm residence. He then moved to Mount Morris township in February, 1885, where he has since resided and tilled the soil. Mr. Stine was married December 16, 1879, to Mary Janette Zellers. Five children have been born to them—W. Ward, April 15, 1881; Mary F. (deceased), October 10, 1882; Fannie May, June 25, 1884; Carrie Belle, June 15, 1889; D. Raymond, August 31, 1891; Ralph W., May 17, 1894.

STARTZMAN, E. O., baker and confec-

tioner; born in Hagerstown, Md., July 19, 1854; unmarried.

STAHLHUT, HENRY, farmer; born in Mount Morris township November 19, 1850; married in 1887 to Laura C. Feidt; two children.

STAHLHUT, WILLIAM, farmer; born in Mount Morris township August 7, 1855; married in 1875 to Lydia C. Thomas.

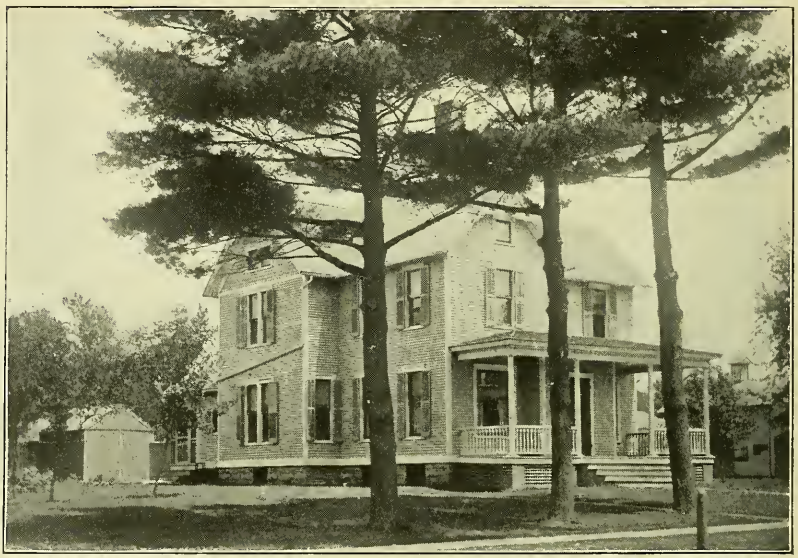
STONEBRAKER, FRANK S., retired farmer; is the son of F. W. and Philoma C. Stonebraker. He was born December 7, 1864, in Mount Morris township. He acquired a common school education in the district school and afterward attended Mount Morris College and also the Northern Illinois Normal School at Dixon, Ill. Mr. Stonebraker was married to Mary Slifer, to whom have been born five children.

STONEBRAKER, S. F., farmer; born in Mount Morris township January 12, 1871; unmarried.

STONEBRAKER, C. V., farmer; born in Mount Morris February 9, 1851; married December 6, 1874, to Gussie O. Williams; one child.

STONEBRAKER, S. LEE, laborer; born in Mount Morris township August 3, 1878; unmarried.

STROCK, J., groceryman; born in Bedford county, Pa., in 1851. He came to Illinois in 1854 and worked on his father's farm till 1891, when he moved to Mount Morris and engaged in the grocery business. Mr. Strock is an enterprising citizen and built for himself a fine residence in 1897-98. Since living here he bought the lot and built what is now the laundry building. He was married in 1880 to Sarah McCosh; has six children.



*Residence of J. Strock.*

STUTESMAN, ALBERTUS, carpenter; born in Dark county, Ohio, May 14, 1851; married September 10, 1874; three children.

STOUFFER, PRICE, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., October 19, 1867; married in 1888 to Emma Haugh; four children.

STEVENS, JAMES H., farmer; born in Fulton county, Pa., November 15, 1843; married March 21, 1867, to Ellen Carr; four children.

STEVENS, ORION, farmer; born in

Huntingdon county, Pa., February 21, 1868; married in 1895; one child.

STEVENS, DAVID F., veterinary surgeon; born in Fulton county, Pa.; married to Dora (Bockholder) Rohrer.

STEWART, JOHN T., carpenter; born at Elliot Mills, Md., May 25, 1829; married in 1852 to Laura E. Franks; two children; married second time in 1882 to Mary A. Barrett.

STEWART, WILLIAM H., barber; born at Martensburk, Va., November 6, 1857; married in 1886 to Susie A. Huffmaster.

STENGEL, JOSEPH, farmer; born in Mount Morris township November 19, 1860; married in 1884 to Anna Wilt; six children.

STENGEL, ANDREW, farmer; born in Germany November 6, 1828; married in 1857 to Grace M. Hoppa; nine children, four dead.

STEINHAGEN, CHRISTIAN, farmer; born in Germany January 15, 1835; married in 1873 to Louisa Hageman; have two sons, Fred and Henry.

SWINGLEY, BENJAMIN, retired farmer; was born in Washington county, Md., September 17, 1816, and is the son of Michael and Mary Swingley. He was one of the very early settlers in the township, having come west with his father in 1842. A portrait appears on page 20. He was married November 31, 1837, to Catherine Hershey, and is the father of eight children.

SWINGLEY, J. H., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., October 10, 1840; married in 1868 to Anna C. Sharer; three children.

SWINGLEY, CHARLES O., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, September 23, 1869; unmarried.

*Residence of Mrs. Katherine Smith.*

SWINGLEY, FRANK, farmer; born in Mount Morris township, January 9, 1878; unmarried.

TALLACKSEN, ALFRED, painter; born in Norway, August 7, 1850; married in 1875 to Jennie Lollsen; five children.

TERVEEN, F. H., farmer; born in New York City, September 19, 1855; married in 1887 to Swansea Dolan; one child.

TICE, FRANK, laborer; born in Forreston township, September 30, 1863; married in 1899 to Susie L. Baker.

TICE, JOHN E., farmer; born at Haldane, Ill., December 19, 1856; married in 1881 to Laura M. Stonebraker; two children.

TICE, C. F., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., March 15, 1852; married in 1874 to Caroline Zoller; five children; one dead.

TICE, HENRY, farmer; son of C. F. Tice; unmarried.

THOMPSON, GREGOR, tailor; born in Denmark, July 17, 1868; unmarried.

TRACY, B. F., carpenter; born in Franklin county, Pa., December 23, 1845; married in 1875 to Mary E. Potter; four children.

TRACY, DENNIS, carpenter; born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

TROSTLE, E. P., retired farmer; born at Gettysburg, Pa., January 15, 1850; married in 1873 to Alice J. Wingert; three children.

TOMS, JOHN A., teamster; born at Davenport, Iowa, September 6, 1847; married to Mary A. Suman; three children; one dead.

TOMS, GEORGE, barber; born in Mount Morris township, June 3, 1876; married February 15, 1898, to Lillie Baker.

THOMAS, WILLIAM R., retired farmer; born in Mount Morris township, February 29, 1844; married in 1887 to Lovenia Slifer.

THOMAS, EDGAR S., farmer; born in Pine Creek township, July 27, 1871.

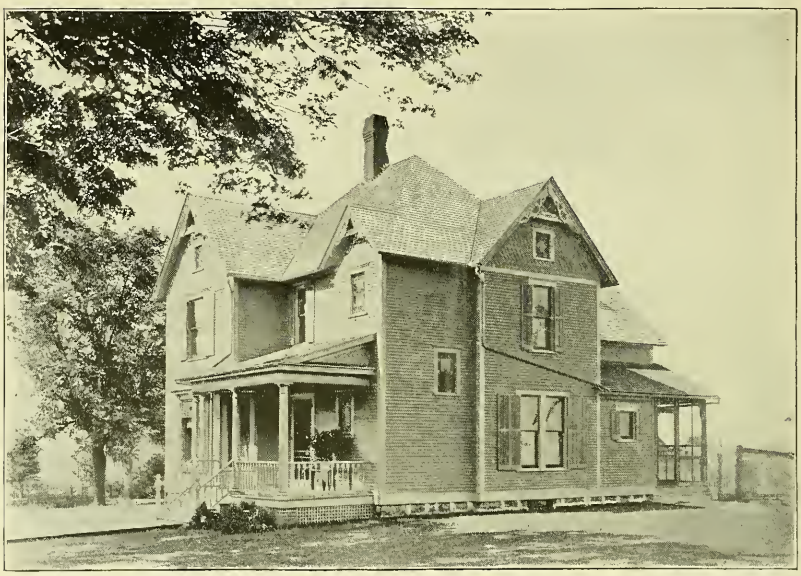
THOMAS, JACOB O., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, February 28, 1846; married in 1885 to Jennie Felker; one child.

THOMAS, J. W., retired Lutheran minister; born at Camden, Ind., May 22, 1850; married in 1881 to Alice B. Newcomer; one child.

THOMAS, NOBLE F., farmer; born in Rockvale township, December 12, 1872; married in 1897 to Susie Young; two children.

UNGER, CHARLES H., retired; born in Franklin county, Pa., October 30, 1846; married in 1867 to Hannah A. Foster; two children.

UNGER, U. G., teamster; born in Franklin county, Pa., November 4, 1868; married in 1891 to Lillian M. Fouke; five



*Residence of William Watts.*

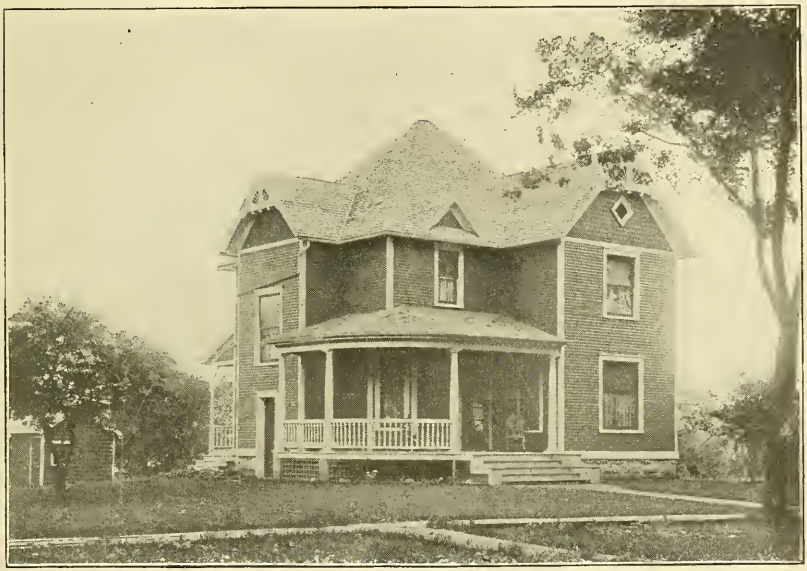
children.

WATTS, THOMAS O., retired farmer; born in Pine Creek township, January 10, 1851; married in 1876 to Mattie S. Avey; two children.

WATTS, N. A., farmer; born in Pine Creek township, February 20, 1853; married in 1891 to Victoria Weller.

WATTS, WILLIAM H., laborer; born in Pine Creek township, May 3, 1860; married in 1893 to Ella McNett; one child.

WATTS, FRED L., farmer; born in Pine Creek township, February 7, 1869; married in 1894 to Fannie F. Felker.



*Residence of Oliver S. Watts.*

WATTS, O. S., groceryman; was born in Pine Creek township, March 28, 1871, being the son of William H. and Anna O. Watts, deceased. He attended the district school until about fifteen years of age when he attended two winters in the Mount Morris public school, and afterward attended Mount Morris College two and one half years, graduating from the commercial course with the class of '92. He worked on the farm for his father from 1892 to 1897, when he formed a partnership with A. R. Pinkley in the grocery business in Mount Morris. After three months he bought Mr. Pinkley's interest and has since conducted the business alone. Later he purchased the store building which he occupied. Mr. Watts was united in marriage October 25, 1898, to Ada Mumma, and for a wedding tour took in the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha. Mr. and Mrs. Watts now occupy the fine residence shown herewith, which was erected during the summer of 1899.

WATTS, GERA, farmer. The subject of this sketch was born on his father's farm in Pine Creek township, March 20, 1852. Besides a common education he attended Mount Morris College during 1875 and 1878. In 1878 he went to Quitman, Mo., a small town of five hundred inhabitants, but remained only one season, returning to Illinois in the fall of the same year. With the help of his brother he farmed a number of years, until in 1885 when he was married and rented the Hitt farm at the edge of the village, where he has remained ever since, a successful tiller of the soil. Mr. Watts has made several

trips into Iowa with a view of buying land but has not yet made a purchase. In December 24, 1885, he was married to Emily J. Wallace. Three children have been born—Robert Reynolds, July 22, 1888; Charles A., June 14, 1890; May E., May 4, 1894.

WAGNER, JOSEPH, retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., September 21, 1826; married March 10, 1859, to Susan Gerhart.

WAGNER, WILLIAM, farm hand; born in Leaf River township, February 7, 1874; unmarried.

WALLACE, CHILION, farmer; born in Mount Morris township, June 19, 1877; unmarried.

WALLACE, LEWIS A., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, December 10, 1867.

WALLACE, LAWRENCE, retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., August 26, 1824; married February 22, 1859, to E. Louisa Leek; eight children; one dead.

WELTY, G. G., farmer; born in Frederick county, Md., October 6, 1865; married September 28, 1884, to Cora B. Martin; five children; two dead.

*Residence of Prof. G. E. Weaver.*

WAKENIGHT, JOHN W., laborer; born in Ohio, May 2, 1852; married May 24, 1874, to Susan R. Strock; nine children; four dead.

WAKENIGHT, HARRY M., laborer; born in Buffalo township, November 5, 1875; unmarried.

WALLACE, LEWIS, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., October 13, 1843; married in 1866 to Mary Long; four children.

WALLACE, EUGENE R., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, July 15, 1875; married in 1898 to Norie Taylor.

WELLER, JOHN, retired lawyer; born in Berkeley county, Va., June 11, 1830; married in 1855 to Annie Getzendaner; four children.

WELLER, C. R., retired farmer; born in Berkeley county, Va.; married.

WEHMEYER, HIO, farmer; born in Germany, August 10, 1867; married in 1891 to Mellie Wallace; two children.

WEAVER, PROF. E. G., principal of Art Department, Mount Morris College; see portrait on page 111 and biography on page 115.

WEEGENS, YOST, farmer; born in Germany, December 23, 1841; married in 1873 to Catherine Taten; five children.

WEEGENS, WILLIAM, farmer; born in Lincoln township, October 19, 1876.

WHITMAN, C. H., jeweler; born at Belvidere, Ill., August 19, 1858; married December 28, 1891, to Maude A. Rine; two children.

WHETSEL, JESSE A.; born in Tennessee, November 8, 1867; married January 21, 1896, to Ada Null; two children.

WHEELER, W. W., merchant; born at St. Charles, Ill., September 6, 1847; married to Ella Sharer; one child.

*Residence of Ira W. Wingert.*

WHITELAW, THOMAS (colored), farm hand; born in Tennessee.

WINGERT, IRA W., lumber dealer; is the son of Joshua and Susan Wingert of Franklin Grove; was born June 12, 1859. Mr. Wingert gained his early education in the public school of his district near Franklin Grove and later spent part of two years at the Northwestern College at Naperville, Ill., and one year at the Davenport (Ia.) Business College. He came to Mount Morris in the fall of 1891 and clerked three years in Daniel Wingert's grocery store. In 1884 he went to Kansas City, engaging for six months in the grocery and furniture businesses. He returned to Mount Morris in 1885 and on the 15th of October was married to Clara Clevidence, daughter of Henry H. and Sophia Clevidence of Mount Morris. One daughter has been born to them—Maurine, born March 31, 1894. After his marriage Mr. Wingert clerked in H. C. Clark's grocery store about four years, and then in partnership with Mr. Clark went into the lumber business, which is still being conducted by them. For seven years they also owned a lumber yard at Maryland.

WINGERT, DANIEL, retired merchant; born in Franklin county, Pa., October 26, 1819; married in 1843 to Nancy Foreman; three children. Married second time to Catherine Butterbaugh.

WILLIAMS, THOMAS C., is the son of Elias and Mary Williams and was born at Mount Morris, July 17, 1851. He graduated from the Mount Morris public school and later attended Rock River Seminary. He spent a number of years in the nursery and small fruit business,

and in late years was a grain buyer and feed dealer, which latter business he sold out, however, to the Neola Elevator Company in 1900. Mr. Wiliams was married to Maggie C. Lookabaugh, daughter of Samuel and Mary Lookabaugh. Three children have been born—Willis (deceased), Pearl, and Allie.

WITHERS, W. C., laborer; born in Williamsbury, Pa., June 10, 1847; married in 1874 to Jennie Stewart.

WITHERS, JAMES P., laborer; born in Williamsbury, Pa., February 22, 1844; married in 1874 to Lettie Conklin; seven children, four dead.

WITHERS, JAMES B.; born in Blair county, Pa., August 15, 1850.

WITHERS, JOHN E., laborer; born in Blair county, Pa., April 18, 1848; married in 1888 to Mrs. Mollie (Derr) Routzahn; two children.

WITHERS, JACOB H., laborer; born in Adams county, Pa., January 25, 1842; married in 1866 to Emma E. Withers (deceased); six children; two dead.

WISHARD, CHARLES A., butcher; born in Franklin county, Pa.; unmarried.

WINDLE, GEORGE, farmer and real estate agent; born in Shenandoah county, Va., November 18, 1842; married in 1865 to Mary Sprecher; four children.

WINDLE, PHILIP, son of George Windle; born in Mount Morris township; unmarried.

WOLFE, JOHN, farmer; born in Washington county, Md., April 24, 1841; married January 12, 1869, to Mary C. Kerns.

WOLFE, ERNEST, farmer; born in Mount Morris township November 10, 1873; married January 26, 1896, to Grace Kendall.

WOLFE, CARLTON E., farmer; born in Washington county, Md., August 5, 1857; married January 10, 1884, to Ella Fridley; two children.

WOLFE, WALTER C., baker and confectioner; is the son of Hiram J. and Catherine Wolfe, and was born near Hagerstown, Md., May 21, 1878. He began his education in Hagerstown but moved with his parents to the State of Missouri, and later to Mount Morris. While at Nevada, Mo., Mr. Wolfe learned the baker's trade of his father, and for a time had charge of a bakery at Butler, Mo. Upon the death of the senior Wolfe in Mount Morris, he helped his mother run the business for several years, but became sole proprietor in March, 1900. Mr. Wolfe is unmarried.

WRIGHT, ROBERT B., farmer and carpenter; born in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., July 22, 1822; married April 4, 1878, to Sylvia E. Scoles; two children.

ZUMDAHL, FRED, farmer; born in Lincoln township, September 21, 1851; married in 1886 to Eliabeth Drake; five children; one dead.

ZUMDAHL, C. A., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, November 1, 1850; married in 1882 to Helen E. Timmer; eight children; three dead.

ZUMDAHL, A. H., farmer; born in Lincoln township, August 7, 1866; married December 16, 1896, to Anna M. Drake.

ZELLERS, MARTIN H., farmer; born in Mount Morris township, November 14, 1863; married in 1885 to Annie M. Keedy; four children.

ZELLERS, DANIEL, retired farmer; born in Washington county, Md., April 12, 1818; married in 1843 to Mary Long; nine children; two dead.

## A SOUVENIR OF ROCK RIVER SEMINARY.

(Illustration ⅔ Size.)

The accompanying cut illustrates a most beautiful souvenir spoon of the old Rock River Seminary, where so many readers of this volume attended school in days long since gone by. The old familiar sandstone dormitory and dining-hall and the huge four story stone building with its tall cupilo and quaint old belfry is brought out in bold relief, etched in the bowl of the spoon. The seal of the state and the name "Illinois" is beautifully embossed upon the handle.

The above illustration does not do full justice to this handsome souvenir, which was produced by me several years ago and of which I have sold large numbers to the old-time students of Sandstone.

Each spoon is made of pure coin silver, nicely proportioned, elegantly engraved, extra heavy weight and regular teaspoon size. Prices $2.25 each for an all silver spoon or $2.50 each for gold bowls, with ten cents extra for postage if sent by registered mail. A beautiful and most valuable and appropriate article for Anniversary, Birthday, Wedding and Christmas gifts. Your orders are respectfully solicited.

## H. E. Newcomer, Jeweler,

Mount Morris, - - - - Illinois.

## Newcomer & Price,

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## Insurance, Real Estate, Loans

Mount Morris farm and city property bought, sold and exchanged. Correspondence solicited.

HENRY E. NEWCOMER CLINTON E. PRICE

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